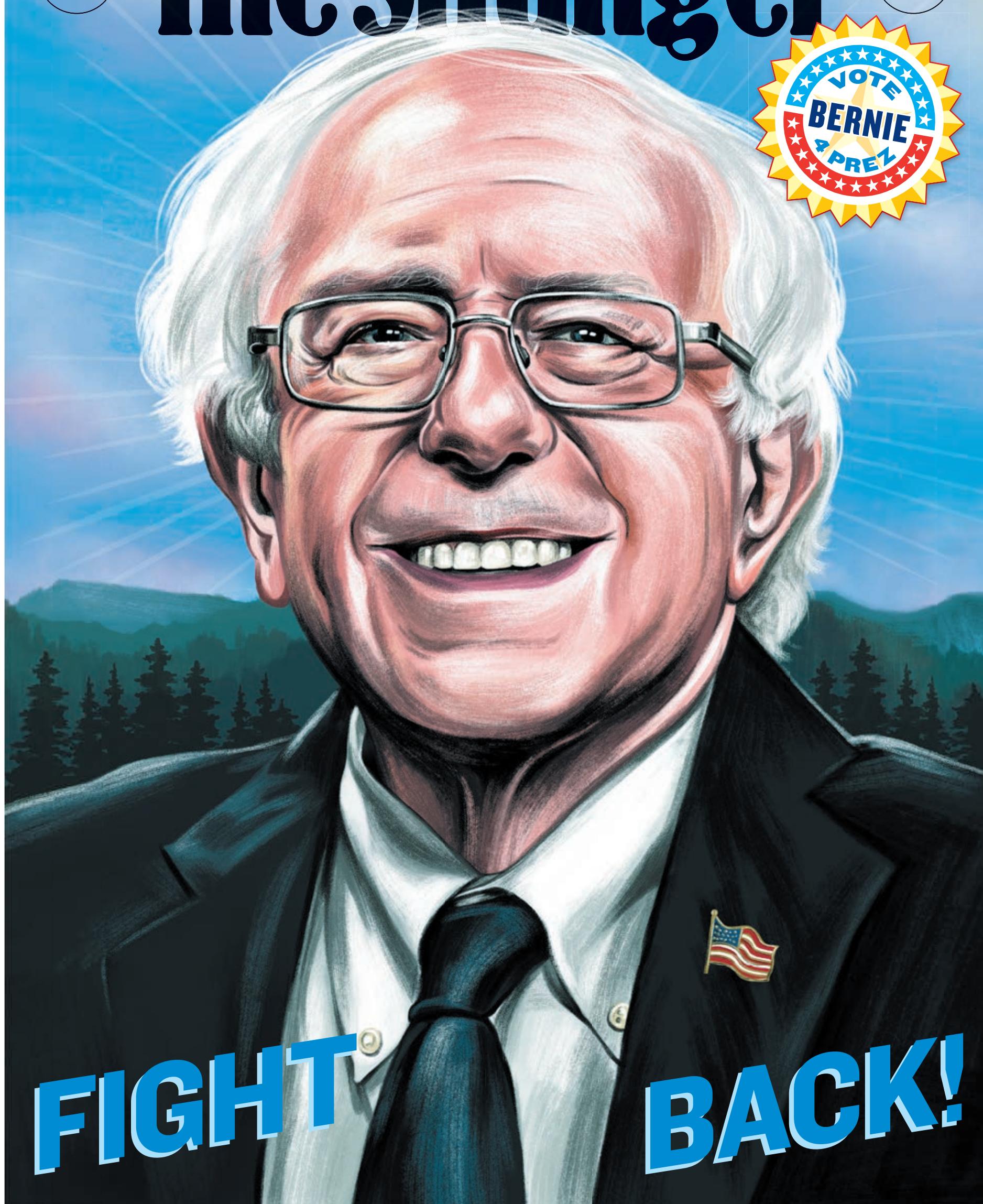


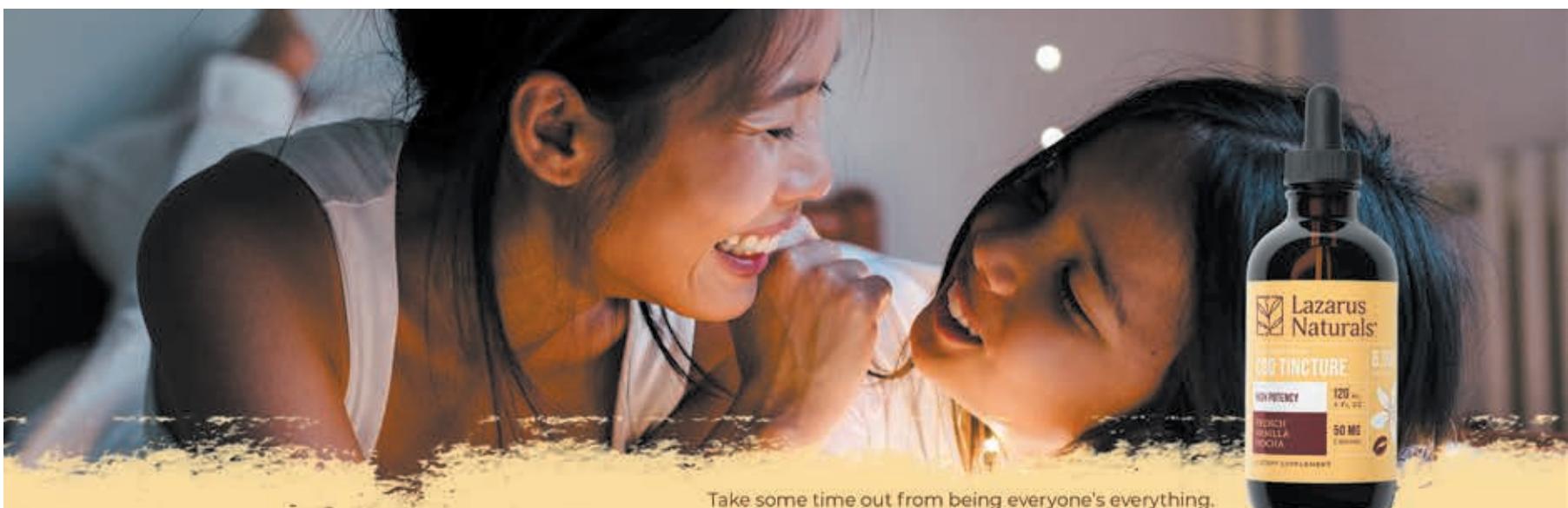
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VOLUME 29, ISSUE NUMBER 14

February 26-March 10, 2020

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jayanicely.com

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The Elliott Bay**Book Company**

Sierra Crane Murdoch in conversation with Seattle author Brooke Jarvis

Yellow Bird: Oil, Murder, and a Woman's Search for Justice in Indian Country Random House

Like Capote covering the climate crisis, Oregon-based journalist Sierra Crane Murdoch describes Arikara native Lissa Yellow Bird's investigation of a murder on indigenous land depleted by oil drilling.

Tuesday, March 3, at 7 p.m.

**Yangsze Choo**

The Night Tiger Flatiron Books

Yangsze Choo returns with the newly-released paperback of her latest novel. Set in 1930s colonial-era Malaysia, *The Night Tiger* has earned praise from local booksellers and Reese Witherspoon alike.

Thursday, March 12, at 7 p.m.



Cathy Park Hong in conversation with author Vince Schleitwiler

Minor Feelings One World

Cathy Park Hong's *Minor Feelings*, a powerful meditation on the social displacement and misunderstanding of Asian identity in America, "blend[s] memoir, cultural criticism, and history to expose the truth of racialized consciousness in America."

Friday, March 13, at 7 p.m.

1521 10th Avenue • 206-624-6600 • www.elliottbaybook.com
Monday-Thursday: 10am - 10pm Friday-Saturday: 10am - 11pm Sunday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

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FORTNIGHT

EDITOR'S NOTE



JOHNNY SAMPSON

In 2018, on the cover of *The Stranger*, we published a portrait of a dog named Sharky who had won our Ugly Pet Contest. Sharky, in old age, was enjoying a moment in the spotlight before croaking. Her owner was touched. Then Sharky's owner started posting on social media about Sharky's health rapidly deteriorating. Then their social media went silent, and it seemed obvious what had happened, and everyone in the office mourned the loss of our cover star. The following year, a dog named BB Gunn won our Ugly Pet Contest and then died. In light of our apparent curse, we announced we were retiring the Ugly Pet Contest. But recently, out of the blue, Sharky's owner wrote to say: "Although Sharky is like 19 now and probably not gonna be around thaaaaaat much longer, she's still very much alive." What?! Ooops! She attached a picture of Sharky eating ants. We apologized profusely, and Sharky's mom said, "Ha-ha, I'm not mad. Believe me, it is pretty nuts that the old lady is still around and eating cat poop, lol." We remain mortified. And we're sticking to our plan of doing a Stupid Pet Contest this year instead. But Sharky lives, full of ants and cat poop.

theStranger's **STUPID PET CONTEST!**



Is your dog a real ding-dong? Your cat a complete moron? Your turtle a total tool? We want to hear about it! Movies are full of Labradors that rescue families from house fires, and while we love heroic pets as much as anyone, don't you think they're a little overplayed? A little basic? They get all the love. Instead, this contest shines the spotlight on the underdogs. Tell us about your boxer who broke into your pantry to eat a brick of chocolate for the third time in one week, or your cat who keeps running into a glass window to try to catch a bird outside, or your guinea pig who keeps crawling into your socks and getting stuck. Write up a funny, true description of a pet you love and cherish despite how stupid it is, attach a photo, and your fluffy/scaly/feathery (but freaking stupid!) pet may have its gorgeous face featured on the cover of an upcoming issue of *The Stranger*.

HOW TO ENTER

Write up a description of your stupid pet, no more than 150 words long. Snap a pic and submit it, along with the description, to stupidpetcontest@thestranger.com. Alternately, you can post the pic and description (as a caption) to Instagram and add the hashtag **#StupidPetContest**. The deadline to get this done is **March 10 at 5 p.m.** A couple of our favorites will appear in our upcoming Pet Issue, and our very favorite will appear on the cover. Good luck!

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I, ANONYMOUS



STEVEN WEISSMAN

To all my coworkers: Please stop giving such incredibly specific reasons for why you will be working from home today. I don't care if you have to go to the doctor for your gout or the particulars of your symptoms. I don't need to know that your cat pooped blood. Or that your dog encountered a hostile person at the grocery store and now needs antidepressants. Keep it to yourself that your poly partner poisoned you with undercooked chicken. You don't need to mention the word diarrhea. Just say in the message that you have an appointment or you're sick! We don't all need to hear about your custody trial with your ex-wife who you hate more than anything in an all staff e-mail!!! Please please please, for the love of god, stop!!!! **ANONYMOUS**

SOMETHING TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST?

E-mail 200 words or less to anonymous@thestranger.com



An **activist** fighting to save Seattle trees showed up to a city council meeting wearing a big **wreath** around her head. The wreath-wearer was joined by a handful of other tree huggers who used their public-comment time to sing a song about the homicide of the city's trees. Video of this, naturally, went viral.

Boeing is asking Washington lawmakers to take back the company's \$100-million-a-year **tax break** after the government handout got the airplane manufacturer in trouble with the World Trade Organization, proving that America's corporate welfare is so egregious that even the corporations themselves think it might be illegal.

Vermont senator **Bernie Sanders** drew a crowd of more than 17,000 to the Tacoma

Dome on February 17. Like other major Sanders rallies, the show was half music, half politics. The band **Portugal. The Man** played their catchy song, Seattle City Council member **Kshama Sawant** called for a million supporters to show up at the Democratic National Convention, a couple **MAGA dorks** tried and failed to disrupt the event, and Sanders issued forth a waterfall of policy proposals only a billionaire could hate.

Students at **Kennedy Catholic High School** in Burien walked out in protest of the forced resignation of two popular teachers over their same-sex engagements. While the protests were a welcome response, the school's decision has struck fear in the hearts of Catholic school **drama teachers** and girls' soccer coaches across the United States.

The Office of Police Accountability ruled earlier this month that **two Seattle police officers** were within department policy when they shot and killed an intoxicated man six seconds after breaking down his apartment door in Lower Queen Anne last spring.



COURTESY OF STG

Gary Gulman.

The **King County Sheriff's Office** faced criticism earlier this month when a new scathing report from the county's police watchdog found that the cops failed to adequately investigate an officer-involved shooting three years ago that left a **17-year-old** dead. The report's shocking details, which included that the sheriff failed to even interview all of the officers involved in the killing, left one county council member asking if **Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht** should be removed from office before her term is up.

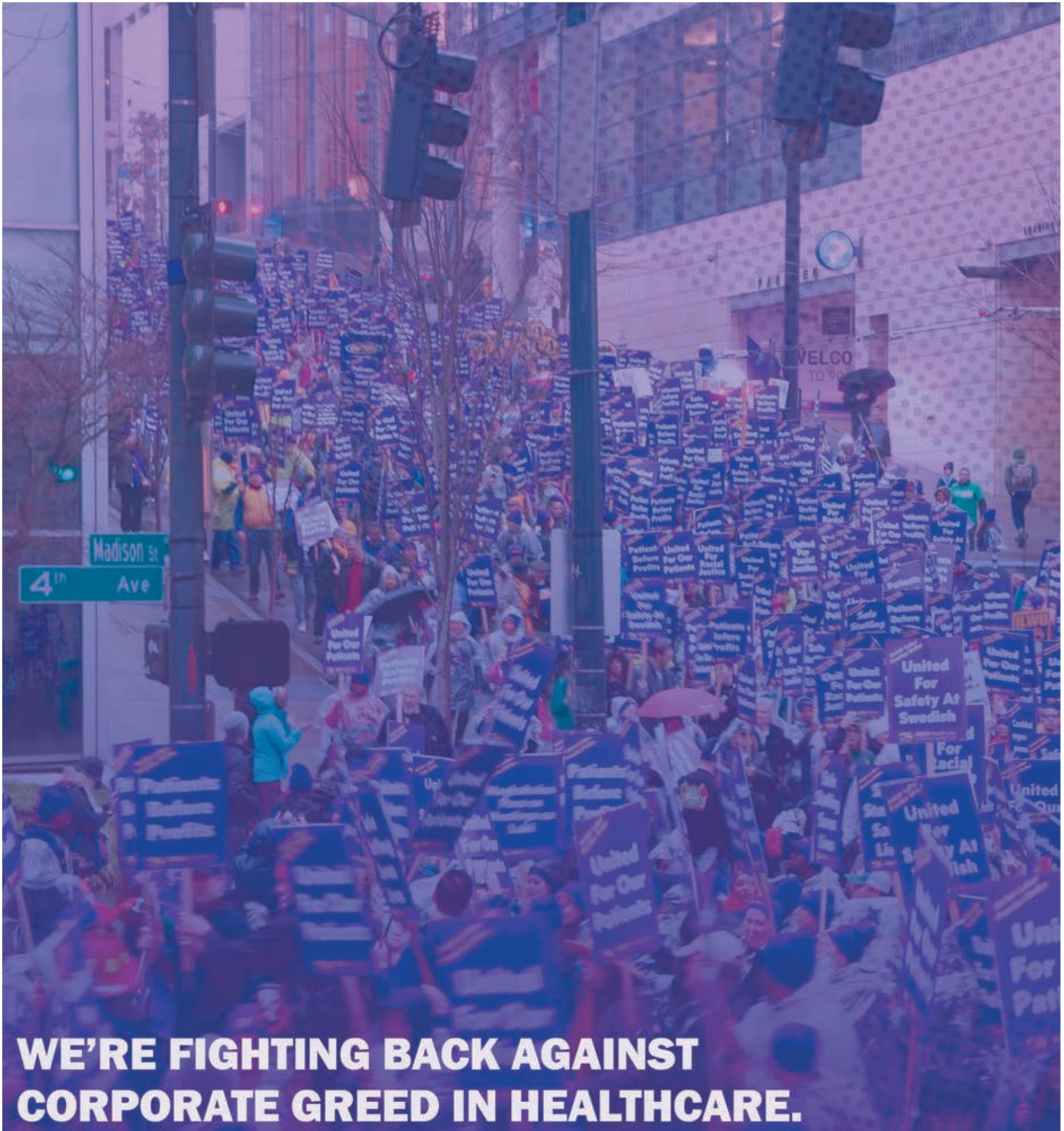
The Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice

Center, aka the **youth jail**, officially opened in February. Newly elected King County Council member **Girmay Zahilay** toured the \$232 million facility and left disappointed. "For all the visible efforts made to modernize the top floors, I was upset to see that the ground floor, where the detained youth would be held, still feels like a standard jail." Attorney **Nikkita Oliver**, dressed in an orange jumpsuit and chained to other activists, led a march in protest of the opening. ■

At the Neptune Theatre, the great comedian **Gary Gulman** showed why it's never a good idea to heckle. After a woman tried to correct him about the kosherness of **Oreo** cookies, Gulman spent three minutes decimating her for interrupting his flow. By the time he was done, she must have been pocket-sized. Later in the set, while talking about his belief system, Gulman said, "I'm in favor of diminishing suffering—like that other long-haired Jew."

Gulman showed why it's never a good idea to heckle a comedian.

As rents continue to rise at alarming rates, two major tenant-protection bills died in Olympia in February. Nevertheless, Democrats found plenty of time to pass a bill creating a special **Seattle NHL hockey license plate**, a bill to designate the Pacific razor clam as the state clam, and a bill to designate the *Suciasaurus rex* as the **official dinosaur** of the state of Washington. Every moderate Democrat should be married. ■



WE'RE FIGHTING BACK AGAINST CORPORATE GREED IN HEALTHCARE.

We stood up against corporate greed in our healthcare system, but our fight for a fair union contract at Swedish-Providence is not over. Healthcare workers at Swedish are still fighting for a contract that puts safe staffing and quality patient care above profits.

While executives at Swedish parent company Providence rake in millions, hundreds of staff positions in our hospitals remain vacant and caregivers' patient safety concerns have not been adequately addressed. Our proposals are a step in the right direction to ensure our patients get the care they deserve.

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Join our fight at UnitedforSafetyatSwedish.org

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FIGHT BACK!

The best candidate to take on Trump, the Seattle company working to reverse climate change, a woman fighting the status quo in Olympia, and more!

If you feel like you're living in a nightmare, you are not alone. The president is a lying, cheating, racist dirt-bag. The immigration policies pursued by his administration are purposefully cruel. And the planet is warming more quickly than scientists predicted.

In this special issue of *The Stranger*, we take a look at some of the people and organizations fighting to right these and other wrongs—including racist drug policy, violence against women, and the prospect of more wildfire smoke choking Seattle again this summer.

We begin with our presidential endorsement for the March 10 primary election. Your ballot has already arrived by mail. The Stranger Election Control Board conducted its secret deliberations powered by Cascade Ice caffeinated seltzer, and

our pick for the best candidate to take on Donald Trump is on page 9.

Who is fighting back against Trump's cruel immigration policies locally? Gregory Scruggs introduces you to a few important people on page 10.

The Ballard company Nori, founded by a libertarian who used to be a climate-change skeptic, is now working to remove carbon from the atmosphere. How do they do it, and what brought about the founder's change of heart on climate change? The answers, involving a life-changing dose of magic mushrooms, are on page 15.

Washington State was one of the first to recognize that drug policy was racist and needed to change—but that fight is not over yet. Lester Black writes about the latest move by the state to repair the racist war on drugs on page 13.

Feminist Karate Union trains women of all ages in self-defense. The kickboxing gym 30 Minute Hit also offers self-defense exercises and strength training. Dave Segal writes about both places on page 14.

And if you are worried about wildfire smoke choking Seattle again this year, well, there's no way you are as worried about it as Hilary Franz, Washington's commissioner of public lands, who is fighting wildfires, the insurance industry, and the status quo across our state. Rich Smith profiles her on page 16. ■

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— Anthony

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UEU
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Bernie Sanders for President

The Stranger's endorsement for the March 10, 2020, primary election.

BY STRANGER ELECTION CONTROL BOARD

The Democratic field is more progressive than it's ever been. Both Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren are talking about replacing the private health insurance market with a public system that covers everyone, and no one is laughing them out of the room. Even Pete Buttigieg, the khaki-wearing homosexual soldier, and Joe Biden, a man who has been in politics so long he's seen bell-bottoms come back twice, have put forth agendas to the left of anything that's come before. Hell, one of the billionaires trying to buy the election is proposing a \$5 trillion tax increase on the rich.

But there is only one candidate who can electrify the electorate enough to beat Donald Trump, and that's Senator Bernard Sanders of Vermont.

The SECB did not come to this decision lightly or without debate. But after pounding a bunch of alarmingly caffeinated seltzers and wolfing down handfuls of gluten-free cookies, we found ourselves largely united behind Bernie Sanders.

When it comes to this particular presidential race, Sanders has the strongest platform, the biggest grassroots network, and the best chance of sending the Cheeto-in-chief back to his gaudy suite in Midtown Manhattan. (Or, better yet, to prison.)

He is the only candidate who can electrify the electorate enough to beat Trump.

Let's start with his platform. Sanders wants to raise the minimum wage to an actual living wage. He wants Medicare for All. He wants massive reinvestment in public housing. And he wants a Green New Deal that transforms our fossil-fuel economy into a green economy while providing jobs for those who need them.

We're not natural optimists (especially after 2016), and to be honest, we don't really think a Sanders revolution will rise up to push every one of these reforms through Congress. But we understand how the legislative process works. If you want a piece, you gotta ask for the whole pie. And Sanders is fucking shouting for that damn pie with whipped cream and boozy cherries on top.

Even if Medicare for All fails to become a reality—at least one Sanders campaign



Bernie Sanders at the Tacoma Dome on February 17, surrounded by 17,000 supporters.

LESTER BLACK

surrogate has recently suggested that the end point of his aggressive health-care stance may simply be (finally!) a public option—President Sanders will still have power over foreign affairs, monetary policy, and executive orders. And it's here where he really stands out from the pack.

President Sanders will transform our country's disastrous policies in the Middle East and Afghanistan, ending endless wars and cutting ties with murderous regimes. Hawks will attack him for this, but the last several decades of war have made warmongering unpopular, at least among those of us who don't work for Halliburton. Sanders's vote against the Iraq war and his tireless work for veterans lends him credibility that should insulate him from attacks on these issues.

As for the economy, there is no doubt in our little pot-addled brains that Sanders will appoint progressives to the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors and demand more transparency from the shadowy institution.

Finally, the only thing that gets the SECB more pumped than irresponsible quantities of caffeinated seltzer is Sanders's list of Day 1 executive orders.

We're talking reinstating DACA, closing the concentration camps at the border, lifting the Muslim travel ban, ending federal contracts with companies that pay workers less than \$15 an hour, reversing Trump's gag rule on abortion referrals, and fucking

legalizing motherfucking weeeeeeeeeeee. Or, rather, taking weed off the list of controlled substances so the Feds can't use it as an excuse to lock up brown and black people.

We are fully aware that once Sanders secures the nomination, Trump and the Republicans are going to scream "SOCIALIST!!!!" if not "COMMUNIST!!!" at the top of their lungs. But they'll paint every Democrat with that brush, so we might as well nominate the actual socialist—the one who's going to repeat the following lines, clearly, consistently, and in his trademark Brooklyn growl, every day until November 3: "Trump is the socialist. He's just a socialist for the rich. He wants to take away your Social Security and Medicare. We want to expand your Social Security and Medicare."

As some members of the SECB rightly pointed out, Elizabeth Warren's platform is very similar to Sanders's, and her plans are often more detailed. It is also true that breaking the country's highest and hardest glass ceiling by electing the first woman president could inspire girls and women in a profound way (so long as that first woman isn't, say, Ivanka Trump).

But after several early contests, it's clear that Warren's appeal is mostly limited to college-educated white people. And while a majority of the SECB is college-educated white people, Warren didn't win Iowa or New Hampshire—two states with a lot of

college-educated white people—so it's unclear how her message and her ground game will resonate everywhere else.

Sanders, on the other hand, has some of the strongest support among young voters, people of color, and the lower-income whites who made the difference for Trump in 2016. That's the coalition Democrats need to win—and so far, Sanders's team is doing it best.

Plus, we have to face the facts: For whatever reason, some portion of Sanders's voters will not vote for any other Democrat in the race, or will even vote for the goddamn incumbent. It happened last time around, when 12 percent (W! T! F!) of Sanders supporters in the primary ended up voting for Trump in the general election. These *Chapo Trap House*-listening idiots might be holding the race hostage—but the stakes are so high that we're willing to pay the ransom if that's what it takes to save the country from four more years of Trump.

Besides, no other candidate—including Warren—has been able to unite such varied American thought leaders as Pramila Jayapal, Glenn Greenwald, Cardi B, Killer Mike, Brandi Carlile, Lizzo, and Joe Rogan's right bicep. No matter what you think of his most ardent fans (and, yes, some Bernie Bros need to get off the internet and take out their aggression at spin class), what they are is passionate, and it will require passion to beat this particular incumbent. We saw in 2016 what happens when unpopular moderates win Democratic primaries, and we can't make that mistake twice.

We're a polarized country, and moderates—along with Mitch McConnell—hold their fair share of the blame. Though Barack Obama made progress on health care, years of trying to find middle ground with Republicans and conservative Democrats led to weak-tea policies that failed to slow rising income inequities, failed to cool a warming planet, and failed to bring troops home for good. In 2016, too many people felt like the government wasn't meaningfully addressing their problems, so they threw a bunch of grenades into the system or else sat the fuck out. That got us Donald Trump, and it cannot happen this time around.

Democrats need to start bringing their own grenades to this fight. And if we want to end this era of polarization, we need to win this race and then work to implement major changes that improve people's daily lives so deeply that Republicans would sooner die than try to cut them out. The only candidate who can do all that is our brother from Brooklyn. On primary day, vote for Bernie Sanders. The SECB, and the future, demand it. ■

Turning Up the Heat to #MeltICE

Meet the local immigrant-rights warriors fighting back against the president's cruelty.

BY GREGORY SCRUGGS

Maybe you fled the Khmer Rouge's genocidal regime in Cambodia in the 1970s only to face deportation proceedings 40 years later. Maybe you are a Salvadoran asylum seeker threatened with death for being trans. Maybe you are a Russian immigrant on a deadly hunger strike at the Northwest Detention Center. Or maybe you're an Iranian family living in Redmond that was harassed at the Blaine border crossing coming back from a Whistler ski trip and Persian pop concert in Vancouver.

If you were any of these people here in Washington, then you wouldn't be alone. Amid President Donald Trump's terror campaign against immigrants, which has roots in the George W. Bush and Barack Obama administrations, there are tireless immigrant-led organizations and activists right here in the Evergreen State who have your back. If Washington is a sanctuary state in any meaningful sense of the term, then this is the grassroots connective tissue that makes it so.

Anyone entangled in the spiderweb of US immigration law is screwed without a good lawyer. A handful of idealistic young lawyers realized this in the mid-1980s and began representing Central American asylum seekers fleeing that decade's crisis: brutal civil war. Their efforts eventually became formalized as the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP), a registered non-profit that fires on all cylinders. Last year, it provided direct legal services to a whopping 11,058 people in Washington while getting at least some basic legal knowledge into the hands of another 7,682.

As the lawyers representing 4,405 active cases last year, the team notched several wins: 62 asylum cases approved, 145 deportation proceedings stopped, and 266 green cards issued. NWIRP's budget has grown almost threefold in five years to \$13 million annually in order to keep up with the frantic, all-hands-on-deck pace of the problems facing today's immigrant communities. Donations are essential, as are public funds like the Seattle-King County Immigrant Legal Defense Network—an example of our local government putting our money where our mouth is when we describe ourselves as a sanctuary jurisdiction. (My wife and I donated to NWIRP in 2018 in honor of our wedding.)

At the helm is Jorge Barón, himself a Colombian immigrant, who became a staff attorney in 2006 and has been the executive director since 2008, which means he has seen three presidential administrations seesaw on their willingness to treat immigrant rights like human rights. But nothing



NOLA THURY, COURTESY OF LA RESISTENCIA



PERRY COOPER OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE

previously has been like what immigrants face under the Trump administration.

"The last three years have been busy—but all negative busy," Barón says. "Bush and Obama targeted specific people. Trump has gone after everybody."

For example, José Robles, an undocumented Mexican father of three, applied for a U visa for victims of crime, only to have his deportation case accelerated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. After living in downtown's Gethsemane Lutheran Church for a year, he is now in ICE custody. A judge denied his bond request in February, but if it had been granted, he could have sought help paying the \$5,000 to \$25,000 bond with the help of the Fair Fight Bond Fund, which helps cover the high cost of bonds for the largely working-class immigrants facing deportation proceedings. Evidence shows that an individual's chances of winning their case improve as much as twentyfold if they can get bonded out, as preparing for court is nearly impossible from inside the detention center. (After bonding out 40 people last year, the fund has been depleted and its managers are actively soliciting donations.)

Ultimately, the Trump administration's scorched-earth approach—targeting the

ly the Northwest Detention Center Resistance), which she underscores is not a formal institution but a grassroots movement. "We're *pueblo*, and as *pueblo* we are sick and tired of this and we want to end this nightmare," she says. The only way to wake up from this bad dream? Free the people inside and close the detention center.

In 2017, Villalpando received a notice of deportation, which she believes was retaliation for her activism. Her US-born daughter hopes to sponsor her for legal status. Her next court date is in February 2021, and she is one of more than a million people caught in an enormous backlog.

La Resistencia volunteers staff a 1-800 number to document abuses inside the detention center. When someone shows up in Tacoma after an ICE Air flight, bewildered and afraid, the word gets around quickly: Call La Resistencia.

Averaging about 20 calls per day, they have heard from people on the inside hailing from at least 17 countries on five continents. "The vast majority are people of color from poor countries," Villalpando says.

If they are looking for a lawyer, the volunteers refer them to NWIRP. But if they find maggots in their food or have been assaulted, La Resistencia documents every abuse about the shady business whereby companies like GEO Group, AccessCorrections.com, and Telmate run a for-profit prison. For example, La Resistencia commits to depositing \$20 per month to every person who calls, but makes sure to inform them that \$5 goes to AccessCorrections.com.

"It's a good opportunity to remind people that they are making a killing on you being detained," she says.

The system drives some people to the edge. La Resistencia has supported 19 hunger strikes inside the detention center by publicizing the striker's demands, providing wellness check-ins, and communicating with the striker's family. In what she calls a bittersweet claim to fame, Villalpando's expertise has been consulted to support seven hunger strikes at other ICE detention centers.

As the profit-driven immigration deportation bureaucracy becomes further entrenched, those working both inside and outside the system are circumspect. "The election matters tremendously. But even if things get better, some bad policies will continue for a really long time," Barón says.

Villalpando is characteristically more blunt. "If a Democrat gets elected, people are going to forget about this issue," she says. "It's not just about getting rid of Trump. We need to get rid of the entire machine." ■

Maru Mora Villalpando (above) leads La Resistencia, which watchdogs the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. Jorge Barón (far left) is executive director of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project.

once bipartisan refugee program, throwing up travel bans left and right, attempting to dismantle the Dreamer program, and squeezing the system with administrative rule changes like increased application fees and a harder path to permanent residency for people who use public benefits—has created a sense of despondency.

"There's this chilling effect that's very damaging," Barón says, as NWIRP's clients must make agonizing choices like whether to accept a housing subsidy now in a time of acute financial need that might poison the well for future green-card eligibility. Looking ahead, Barón is bracing for a Supreme Court decision on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), or Dreamers, program. "I am not super optimistic—2020 is going to be a very rough year."

The further dissolution of any hope in the political process is vindication for Maru Mora Villalpando, an undocumented immigrant who gave up lobbying for immigration reform in favor of watchdogging the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. She hopes 2020 will be the year that Tacoma and Washington State finally express public support for her long-term goal: shutting down the federal facility.

"For years, I wanted to do something beyond the safe, traditional route of advocacy," she says. "I realized the fight was not in policy, it was in direct action."

Villalpando leads La Resistencia (former-

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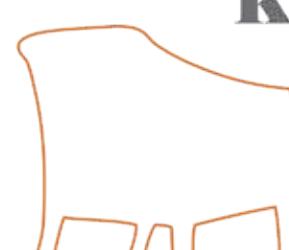
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Pot farm owner Joy Hollingsworth is “100 percent” behind the proposed law.

Fighting Back Against the Racist War on Drugs

Could new pot shops help?

BY LESTER BLACK

The United States has a cruel relationship with weed. When pot was illegal everywhere, African Americans were arrested for pot crimes at far higher rates than white people. Now white people are raking in billions of dollars in weed revenue while Black people are largely shut out of the legal pot system.

Nowhere is this cruel reality more true than in Washington State, where Black people were 280 percent more likely to get arrested for pot than a white person during the war on drugs. Black people currently own only 4 percent of the state’s weed retailers and 1 percent of the state’s pot farms, according to data from the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB).

Our state has never tried to tackle this disparity. Rick Garza, director of the WSLCB, recently told a legislative hearing that our state “missed an opportunity to focus on social equity” when we legalized pot.

Now Garza wants to change that. The WSLCB proposed a law that would allow the agency to give its unused retail pot licenses to people who were previously convicted of a misdemeanor pot offense or who come from neighborhoods that were over-policed during the war on drugs. The proposed law cannot rely only on the race of the applicants to allocate the retail licenses, because affirmative action is illegal in Washington State.

Garza explicitly said that he wants social equity to help repair some of the harm of the war on drugs.

“By social equity, I mean two things,” Garza said. “One, that the new cannabis industry should reflect the diverse population of our state. Second, it challenges us to create economic opportunity in the cannabis industry for people in communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition.”

The proposed law would also fund a new

grant program and create a new task force that can recommend further programs. The grant program—funded with \$1 million of pot-tax revenue a year—would provide money for social equity license holders to navigate the bureaucratic nightmare of keeping pot licenses in compliance.

The task force would be composed of 12 members drawn from various boards and commissions, including organizations representing the African American and Latinx communities, which would be charged with making further social equity recommendations by the end of this year. Those recommendations could include calls for more pot licenses.

Joy Hollingsworth, who is Black and owns the pot farm Hollingsworth Cannabis Company with her family, said the task force was one of the reasons she is “fully, 100 percent supporting the bill.”

“I have trust that they have the best intentions for the minority community and trying to get more people of color in the industry,” Hollingsworth said. “That’s why I really like this bill, because it’s not just narrowing it down to one thing.”

But not everyone is happy. Aaron Bossett, of the Black Cannabis Commission, said that any attempt to fix the harm of the war on drugs needs to include more than just pot licenses.

“For me, it’s still a no. It’s just not broad enough,” Bossett said. “There needs to be more programs outside of just cannabis, because cannabis was used as a weapon. At least allow some of that tax money to go into community development and other programs.”

The proposed law passed the state house of representatives on February 16 and is now awaiting a vote in the senate. If it passes, all it will need is a signature from Governor Jay Inslee before the state can start at least trying to use pot legalization to repair the harm of the war on drugs. ■

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KATHY STANLEY

A client at kickboxing gym 30 Minute Hit, with branch owner Brian Keaton.

Literally Fighting Back

Inside a karate studio and a kickboxing gym where women can learn self-defense.

BY DAVE SEGAL

Tacey Drum joined the Feminist Karate Union (FKU) 27 years ago, after a neighbor threatened to kill her and her boyfriend in their U-District apartment. "I never thought it would transform my life," she says. "I thought I would learn some self-defense moves that would put my mind at ease and I could return to my usual routine. But karate became my routine."

Formed by Py Bateman in 1971, FKU, now located in Sodo, is staffed entirely by women, all of whom are volunteers. They include a retired medical doctor, a lawyer, a scientist, and an entrepreneur whose business involves self-defense training for women and girls.

"I became strong in ways that I'd never imagined," Drum says. "I learned that by

healthy and strong because of it. And, now, as an instructor, I delight at seeing my students discover all that they can do."

A similar attitude pervades 30 Minute Hit, a kickboxing gym for women on Capitol Hill. 30 Minute Hit offers a circuit-based format, starting with jumping rope and jabbing to warm up. The hitting stations build upper-body strength, and the kicking—roundhouse, knees, front kicks—builds lower-body power. The last three stations focus on self-defense, preparing a person for various dangerous scenarios.

"Many of the women have told me how much stronger they feel," says Brian Keaton, the owner of this branch of the worldwide franchise (and the only male on-site). "One woman I was talking to last night, she's a runner and does this for cross-training—she can run longer and stronger now. She also said, 'I feel much more confident when I walk around the neighborhood. If I get into a situation that seems odd, I don't have to worry as much because I know how to protect myself.'"

Keaton notes that 30 Minute Hit doesn't foster a competitive atmosphere; there's no sparring. Rather, each hitter works at her own pace, although settings can increase in difficulty as fitness improves. He also stresses that exercises can be modified if a woman is pregnant or postpartum.

"It's not a self-defense class, but the elements are there: How do you hit? How do you keep your opponent/attacker at a distance? Or if they get close, what do you do? If you're on the ground, what do you do? We teach techniques specifically for that. But it's mainly about getting a workout in and having fun."

Kiana Tom has been attending 30 Minute Hit since it opened. A Seattle University nursing student who also works two part-time jobs, she's noticed a rise in her confidence and mood. Plus, the come-when-you-want format fits her busy schedule. "It's a very positive environment," she says. "I get a boost of energy and self-esteem at the end of a very hard day." ■

"Have I ever beat the crap out of some asshole?" says a FKU teacher. "I haven't."

controlling my breath, I held the joystick controlling the muscles and emotions in my body. I could make my gi [uniform] snap like they do in martial-arts movies. I developed so much precision in my movements that I could deliver a roundhouse kick, stopping one inch from a person's head, leaving them with just the sensation of my foot disturbing the air on their cheek."

Eventually, Drum herself became an instructor. FKU prides itself on helping women who've been in abusive relationships, children with behavioral issues (including boys), and LGBTQ folks.

"People always ask me if I've ever had to use it. I know what they're really asking—have I ever beat the crap out of some asshole? I haven't. But the truth is, I use it every day. I'm alert to what's going on around me. I don't walk around in fear. I use it at work and when I speak out against injustice. I'm

Reversing Climate Change

Ballard company Nori is using cryptocurrency to get farmers to suck carbon out of the air.

BY KATIE HERZOG

Most people accept by now that the climate is changing and it's a direct result of carbon emissions. Politicians, NGOs, academics, the media, and activists spend time, energy, and money thinking about how best to get the world off of fossil fuels, and they do it while facing resistance from the fossil-fuel industry and the federal government.

But there's an equally serious problem aside from achieving carbon neutrality in the future: What the hell are we going to do about all the carbon we've been emitting since the dawn of the industrial revolution?

That's the problem Paul Gambill is trying to solve.

For those who knew him as a kid, it's probably a surprising turn of events. Gambill was raised in a conservative, Catholic, Fox News-watching family in Phoenix. He was the (rare) type of teenager who cried when Ronald Reagan died. He knew the climate was changing, but he didn't think human emissions were a significant cause of it. Gambill, now 31, might have continued to hold this

belief, but then, at a music festival after college, something happened to change his life.

And it happened, as these things tend to, while on magic mushrooms.

"I was at a music festival in Michigan, and I remember sitting on the lawn while some band was playing," Gambill tells me at his office in Ballard. "I was watching this tree that had coin-shaped leaves fluttering back and forth like sequins in the wind, and I was just enraptured by that. I'd never felt more connection to nature at any point in my life, and it completely changed how I related to the world. I came away from that with a love for the natural world and an understanding that we are a part of everything else on earth."

The revelation stuck with him. But despite his shroom-induced epiphany (and his love of the band Phish), Gambill isn't exactly what you'd call a hippie: Over the years, his politics have evolved, and he's now one of a small but growing number of libertarians working to combat climate change and its impacts.

What Nori, the company Gambill founded in 2017, does is both very high tech and very old-school. They've created a marketplace that connects governments, corporations, or individual people with farmers who agree to transition from conventional industrial agriculture to regenerative farming.

The farmers, in essence, revert to the way people farmed before the advent of industrial machinery. They don't till or use fertilizers, which in the long-term damages soil along



Regenerative farming can remove carbon from the atmosphere—about one ton per acre per year.

with water quality. Instead, they use compost, mulching, and cover crops that regenerate the soil itself—and, in the process, remove carbon from the air and sequester it into the land.

Regenerative farming is labor-intensive and expensive to adopt, and it decreases yields in the short-term. But long-term, it can increase yields, improve the health of

Nori's founder had his epiphany about the climate while he was on magic mushrooms.

the land and the water, and remove carbon from the atmosphere at the rate of about one ton per acre a year.

Marketplaces where individuals or institutions can buy or sell sequestered carbon already exist. You can also purchase carbon offsets—which are basically promises to reduce emissions—from some airlines, car companies, and retailers. But this practice has long been plagued with problems, in part because offsets are poorly regulated and easy to manipulate. Multiple investigations over the last decade have found that, often, little of the money being exchanged actually goes to reducing carbon. Instead, it goes to the middlemen who buy and trade carbon

offsets on secondary markets. And that's not the only problem. It's notoriously difficult to verify that these offsets are genuine, and the same ones tend to get marked up and sold over and over again.

And then there's the potential for fraud. In 2018, for instance, 12 people were tried in France for tax fraud and money laundering through a carbon-trading scheme that prosecutors claim cost the European Union five billion euros. French authorities called it the "heist of the century."

Nori does things differently. Instead of reducing future emissions, they work with their partners—usually farmers, although they hope to move into forestry and ranching—to remove carbon that's already been emitted. Once that carbon has been removed, the company works with a third party to verify it. They then issue a certificate to the farmer, who sells it to a buyer for NORI tokens, the company's form of cryptocurrency. After it's sold, the carbon removal is recorded on the blockchain and retired immediately, so it can't be sold on secondary markets. It's like bitcoin, but for a good cause.

Gambill says that when he approaches farmers, it's not climate change he talks about, but money. The farmers on Nori's marketplace receive 90 percent of the price of the sale. In similar programs, Gambill says, that number is more like 10 percent.

The other selling point, Gambill says, is the impact of regenerative farming on the

soil. "Topsoil is eroding. It's getting harder and harder to get the same yields. The farmers recognize that we have to transition to regenerative agriculture or we won't have food in the future." And this way, they get paid to do it.

Gambill doesn't just tailor his message to farmers. He tailors it to everyone he speaks to. When he speaks to chief financial officers, he talks bottom line; when he speaks to environmentalists, he talks about sustainability; when he speaks to conservatives, he talks about national security and self-defense. And he's got a knack for reaching across party lines. Unlike most people working in this field, he understands climate-change skeptics—because he used to be one.

"Carbon is not evil or immoral," he says. "It's just in the wrong place. People shouldn't feel shame about using energy. Fossil fuels have lifted billions of people out of poverty and prevented countless famines. But there's a consequence to this, and people respond better to incentives than they do to shaming. I want them to see there's a positive action they can take that has real results."

Still, carbon removal will not solve all our problems. Gambill says that all US croplands could sequester about a billion tons of carbon a year. Reforestation, kelp farming, and emerging technologies can do more, but it's still a drop in the rapidly rising ocean compared to the 40 billion tons of carbon the world emits every year. That's where Gambill's libertarian values come slightly into conflict with the reality of the situation, because he knows that the free market can't stop polluters from polluting. That's going to take government intervention.

"We should treat carbon the exact same way we treated leaded gasoline and getting CFCs out of refrigerants to fix the ozone hole," he says. "Say anyone who produces a product that puts carbon in the air would have to reduce the carbon content every year until it gets to zero. It's not about the government picking market solutions, it's about saying, 'You have to meet these objectives, and I don't care how you do it.'"

But for the other part of this—bringing down to earth the carbon we've already emitted—Gambill hopes Nori can be part of the solution. "For a long time, people were really reluctant to talk about carbon removal because they were concerned it would give emitters a pass and they wouldn't decarbonize," Gambill says. "And there is some truth to that, for sure. But we don't have a choice anymore. It's too late to just focus on reducing emissions. We have to do something else." ■

Hilary Franz Does Epic Shit

Washington State's lands commissioner is fighting wildfires, insurance companies, and the status quo.

BY RICH SMITH

When she walked out of a half-hour meeting with Governor Jay Inslee earlier this month, Washington commissioner of public lands Hilary Franz turned to her staff and whispered: "Am I threatening? Am I intimidating to you?"

Then Franz, ever the happy warrior, burst into laughter for the 400th time that day.

Lately she's been lobbying intensely for a bill that implements a 20-year forest health plan and a 10-year wildland fire protection plan recently released by her Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The plans are the first of their kind from the agency, and together they provide a long-awaited blueprint for how to tackle increasingly damaging wildfires ravaging the state.

If the governor signs the bill, it will be a huge victory for the trees, for a lot of stressed out firefighters, and for all of our lungs. It also won't hurt Franz's campaign for a second term.

Franz is only the second woman to serve as commissioner of public lands since statehood in 1889. As a land-use and environmental lawyer, she was accustomed to 40:60 gender ratios in the workplace, but the world of firefighters and landowners has been decidedly more lopsided.

After knocking out King County Council member Dave Upthegrove in the 2016 Democratic primary, and then going on to win the general election against navy vet Steve McLaughlin, Franz remembers one fire commissioner out east asking her, "How could a little lady like you do a big job like this?"

Representative Joel Kretz, a Republican who represents a Northeast Washington district hit hard by fires, was also unimpressed with her win. When the two first met, he recalls telling a colleague, "I'll let her talk, then I'll kill her."

And one woman lawmaker even asked her, baffled, who was taking care of her sons at home on Bainbridge Island while she worked.

But Franz understood she'd have to overcome these prejudices pretty quickly, given the miserable state of Washington's forests and the growing threat to the lives of firefighters who could die on her watch.

Meanwhile, she does her part to encourage solidarity among women leaders in Olympia. To celebrate the addition of so many women to the legislature in 2018, she sent them all desk placards that read "Do Epic Shit."

In her corner office, Franz pointed to a photo of dead pines on a mountainside. "We're supposed to be the Evergreen State. We're not looking very green," she said.

Before Franz took office, Washington had suffered three of the worst fire seasons on record. A million acres burned in 2015, and



COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Hilary Franz in the field with firefighters from the Central Washington Interagency Fire Training Academy.

three firefighters died battling a firestorm near Twisp. Back then, firefighters joked that DNR stood for "do not respond, do not resuscitate."

Changing that reputation wasn't going to be easy. DNR didn't have a budget big enough to fight Washington's increasingly damaging fires while also thinning out the state's overgrown forests. With no money and no plan yet, Franz focused on what she could control: structural changes and building better relationships in rural communities.

She emphasized quick responses to fighting fires, prepositioning equipment closer to fire-prone areas and repositioning based on weather and wind conditions. She also deployed the agency's eight helicopters—all of which, Franz is quick to say, fought in the Vietnam War—whenever fires popped up instead of when they started growing out of control.

She also made it a point to travel around the central and eastern parts of the state, meeting face-to-face with county commissioners and lawmakers who had developed an intense animosity toward the agency under former commissioner Peter Goldmark.

The focus on building relationships seems to have paid off. A month after her election, Franz met with Representative Kretz, the guy who said he wanted to kill her. After the two "went at it for an hour," Franz asked him to give her a chance, and he said he would. Two weeks later, she accompanied him on a trip to Sinlahekin Wildlife Area in Okanogan County to see forests that had been properly managed to resist wildfire. "I thought, 'Oh wow, we never got this kind of attention from Little Peter,'" Kretz said, using his nickname

for Goldmark. (Goldmark didn't respond to multiple requests for comment.)

When heavy flooding hit Okanogan County in 2018, Franz went out of her way to send pumping equipment and firefighters. "The community came out, and they were grateful," Kretz said. As a result of Franz's action and attention, Kretz now supports her bill, though he can't say how many other Republicans will, due to the payment mechanism.

Aside from the tragic loss of life and the enormous health risks, fighting fires in unnaturally thick forests with an underfunded force is expensive. Each year, Franz has to beg the legislature for an average of \$153 million, requiring the state to tap emergency funds and part of the general fund.

The desire to create a dedicated revenue stream for firefighting and forest health is what landed Franz in Governor Inslee's office. House Bill 2413, sponsored by Representative Joe Fitzgibbon, would impose a \$5 surcharge on home and auto insurance policies (which insurance companies hate, and which Olympia views as a tax hike). The tax would raise \$63.5 million per year. Part of the money would fund new equipment and firefighters, while the other part would hire more people to remove dead trees and brush from 2.7 million acres of forests in Central and Eastern Washington. Those workers would also reforest a million acres that have already burned.

Though the fires in 2019 weren't as bad as the fires in 2018, which caused Seattle to register the worst air quality in the world some days, Franz says the state is still a tinderbox.

Three towns in Washington—Roslyn,

Cliffdell, and Twin Lakes—are at greater risk of being wiped out by fire than Paradise, California, which was razed by the Camp Fire in 2018. Wildfire threatens nearly 2.2 million homes across the state. And insurance companies have been dropping clients who live in fire-prone areas.

Though Franz has built a surprisingly diverse coalition of supporters, she faces intense opposition from the powerful insurance lobby. While Franz thinks she can assuage their concerns, she also faces resistance from inside the house. A representative for the governor's office said Inslee "supports increased investments in forest health and fire suppression," but he's still reviewing the bill and hasn't taken a position.

In their meeting, Franz said, Inslee recognized that it's a short session and an election year, so it's not a time when legislators like passing tax bills. He also mentioned other "competing demands," such as the mental-health crisis, the homelessness crisis, the affordable-housing crisis, and the million other crises gripping the state.

Franz gets it, but she argues her bill would free up \$50 million in the capital budget for any of the crises (because appropriators currently tap into the capital budget to fight wildfires). "To me, it's a win for everybody. It's a win across the urban-rural divide. And the sooner we can start making these investments, the sooner we can reduce the loss of our forests, and reduce emissions, and reduce the loss of lives," she said.

"There will always be a reason to kick the can down the road," Franz added. "But this is a time for leadership." ■



Free Will Astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

February 26–March 3

ARIES (March 21–April 19): You may sometimes reach a point where you worry that conditions are not exactly right to pursue your dreams or fulfill your holy quest. Does that describe your current situation? If so, I invite you to draw inspiration from Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes (1547–1616), who's regarded as one of history's foremost novelists. Here's how one observer described Cervantes during the time he was working on his masterpiece, the novel titled *Don Quixote*: "Shabby, obscure, disreputable, pursued by debts, with only a noisy tenement room to work in." Cervantes dealt with imperfect conditions just fine.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): "True success is figuring out your life and career so you never have to be around jerks," says Taurus filmmaker, actor, and author John Waters. I trust that you have been intensely cultivating that kind of success in the last few weeks, Taurus—and that you will climax this wondrous accomplishment with a flourish during the next few weeks. You're on the verge of achieving a new level of mastery in the art of immersing yourself in environments that bring out the best in you.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): I would love for you to become more powerful, Gemini—not necessarily in the sense of influencing the lives of others, but rather in the sense of managing your own affairs with relaxed confidence and crisp competence. What comes to mind when I urge you to expand your self-command and embolden your ambition? Is there an adventure you could initiate that would bring out more of the swashbuckler in you?

CANCER (June 21–July 22): For my Cancerian readers in the southern hemisphere, this oracle will be in righteous alignment with the natural flow of the seasons. That's because February is the hottest, laziest, most spacious time of year in that part of the world—a logical moment to take a lavish break from the daily rhythm and escape on a vacation or pilgrimage designed to provide relaxation and renewal. Which is exactly what I'm advising for all of the earth's Cancerians, including those in the northern hemisphere. So for those of you above the equator, I urge you to consider thinking like those below the equator. If you can't get away, make a blanket fort in your home and pretend. Or read a book that takes you on an imaginary journey. Or hang out at an exotic sanctuary in your hometown.

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): Leo author Walter Scott (1771–1832) was a pioneer in the genre of the historical novel. His stories were set in various eras of the Scottish past. In those pre-telephone and pre-internet days, research was a demanding task. Scott traveled widely to gather tales from keepers of the oral tradition. In accordance with current astrological omens, Leo, I recommend that you draw inspiration from Scott's old-fashioned approach. Seek out direct contact with the past. Put yourself in the physical presence of storytellers and elders. Get firsthand knowledge about historical events that will inspire your thoughts about the future of your life story.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): Over a period of 40 years, the artist Rembrandt (1606–1663) gazed into a mirror as he created more than 90 self-portraits—about 10 percent of his total work. Why? Art scholars don't have a definitive answer. Some think he did self-portraits because they sold well. Others say that because he worked so slowly, he was the only person he could get to model for long periods. Still others believe this was his way of cultivating self-knowledge, equivalent to an author writing an autobiography. In the coming weeks, I highly recommend that you engage in your personal equivalent of extended mirror-gazing. It's a favorable time to understand yourself better.

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): From author Don DeLillo's many literary works, I've gathered five quotes to serve as your guideposts in the coming weeks. These observations are all in synchronistic alignment with your current needs. (1) Sometimes a thing that's hard is hard because you're doing it wrong. (2) You have to break through the structure of your own stonework habit just to make yourself listen. (3) Something is always happening, even on the quietest days and deep into the night, if you stand a while and look. (4) The world is full of abandoned meanings. In the commonplace, I find unexpected themes and intensities. (5) What we are reluctant to touch often seems the very fabric of our salvation.

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): "I remember a time when a cabbage could sell itself just by being a cabbage," wrote Scorpio author Jean Giraudoux (1882–1944). "Nowadays it's no good being a cabbage—unless you have an agent and pay him a commission." He was making the point that for us humans, it's not enough to simply become good at a skill and express that skill; we need to hire a publicist or marketing wizard or distributor to make sure the world knows about our offerings. Generally, I agree with Giraudoux's assessment. But I think that right now it applies to you only minimally. The coming weeks will be one of those rare times when your interestingness will shine so brightly, it will naturally attract its deserved attention. Your motto, from industrialist Henry J. Kaiser: "When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): When he was 29 years old, Sagittarian composer Ludwig van Beethoven published his *String Quartet, Op. 18, No. 4*. Most scholars believe that the piece was an assemblage of older material he had created as a young man. A similar approach might work well for you in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. I invite you to consider the possibility of repurposing tricks and ideas that weren't quite ripe when you first used them. Recycling yourself makes good sense.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): Are there parts of your life that seem to undermine other parts of your life? Do you wish there was greater harmony between your heart and your head, between your giving and your taking, between your past and your future? Wouldn't it be wonderful if you could infuse your cautiousness with the wildness of your secret self? I bring these questions to your attention, Capricorn, because I suspect you're primed to address them with a surge of innovative energy. Here's my prediction: Healing will come as you juxtapose apparent opposites and unite elements that have previously been unconnected.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): When he was 19, the young poet Robert Graves joined the British army to fight in World War I. Two years later, the *Times of London* newspaper reported that he had been killed at the Battle of the Somme in France. But it wasn't true. Graves was very much alive, and he continued to be for another 69 years. During that time, he wrote 55 books of poetry, 18 novels, and 55 other books. I'm going to be bold and predict that this story can serve as an apt metaphor for your destiny in the coming weeks and months. Some dream or situation or influence that you believed to be gone will in fact have a very long second life filled with interesting developments.

PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): If you're like most of us, you harbor desires for experiences that might be gratifying in some ways but draining in others. If you're like most of us, you may on occasion get attached to situations that are mildly interesting but divert you from situations that could be amazingly interesting and enriching. The good news, Pisces, is that you are now in a phase when you have maximum power to wean yourself from these wasteful tendencies. The coming weeks will be a favorable time to identify your two or three most important and exciting longings—and take a sacred oath to devote yourself to them above all other wishes and hopes.

Homework: Try to identify which aspect of your life needs healing more than any other aspect. Tell at freewillastrology.com.

March 4–10

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Progress rarely unfolds in a glorious, ever-rising upward arc. The more usual pattern is gradual and uneven. Each modest ascent is followed by a phase of retrenchment and integration. In the best-case scenario, the most recent ascent reaches a higher level than the previous ascent. By my estimate, you're in one of those periods of retrenchment and integration right now, Aries. It's understandable if you feel a bit unenthusiastic about it. But I'm here to tell you that it's crucial to your next ascent. Let it work its subtle magic.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): You are most likely to be in sweet alignment with cosmic rhythms if you regard the next three weeks as a time of graduation. I encourage you to take inventory of the lessons you've been studying since your birthday in 2019. How have you done in your efforts to build interesting, synergistic intimacy? Are you more passionately devoted to what you love? Have you responded brightly as life pushed you to upgrade the vigor and rigor of your commitments? Just for fun, Taurus, give yourself a grade for those "classes," as well as any others that have been important to you. Then—again, just for fun—draw up a homemade diploma for yourself to commemorate and honor your work.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): Are you ready to take on a bigger role in determining what happens in the environments you share with people? Do you have any interest in exerting leadership to enhance the fortunes of the group or tribe you're part of? The coming weeks will be an excellent time to express brave and audacious acts that boost the fortunes and raise the spirits of those whose fates are intermingled with yours. I hope you'll be a role model for the art of pleasing oneself while helping others.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Cancerian author Lionel Trilling (1905–1975) was an influential intellectual and literary critic. One of his heroes was another influential intellectual and literary critic, Edmund Wilson. On one occasion, Trilling was using a urinal in a men's room at the New School for Social Research in New York. Imagine how excited he was when Wilson, whom he had never met, arrived to use the urinal right next to his. Now imagine his further buoyancy when Wilson not only spoke to Trilling but also expressed familiarity with his work. I foresee similar luck or serendipity coming your way soon: happy accidents that inspire your self-confidence and seemingly unlikely encounters with interesting resources.

LEO (July 23–Aug 22): Poet Cone Berdrea delivered a poignant message to her most valuable possession: the flesh and blood vehicle that serves as a sanctuary for all her yearnings, powers, and actions. "My beloved body," she said, "I am so sorry I did not love you enough." Isn't that a sad thing for her to say? But what's worse is that it's incomplete. I wish she had added a redemptive statement, like "From now on, my dear body, I promise to love you with all my ingenuity and panache." Would you consider making such a vow to your own most valuable possession, Leo? It's a favorable time to do so.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22): Luckily, the turning point you have arrived at doesn't present you with 20 different possible futures. You don't have to choose from among a welter of paths headed in wildly disparate directions. There are only a few options to study and think about. Still, I'd like to see you narrow down the alternatives a bit more. I hope you'll use the process of elimination as you get even clearer about what you don't want. Let your fine mind gather a wealth of detailed information and objective evidence, and then hand over the final decision to your intuition.

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22): Certain artists are beyond my full comprehension. Maybe I'm not smart enough to understand their creations, or I'm not deep enough to fathom why their work is considered important. For example, I don't enjoy or admire the operas of Wagner or the philosophy of Hegel or the art of Mark Rothko. Same with the music of Drake or the novels of Raymond Carver or the art of Andy Warhol. The problem is with me, not them. I don't try to claim they're overrated or mediocre. Now I urge you to do what I just did, Libra, only on a broader scale. Acknowledge that some of the people and ideas and art and situations you can't appreciate are not necessarily faulty or wrong or inadequate. Their value may simply be impossible for you to recognize. It's a perfect time for you to undertake this humble work. I suspect it will be liberating.

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21): Scorpio-born Ralph Bakshi has been making animated films and TV shows for more than 60 years. His work has been influential. "I'm the biggest ripped-off cartoonist in the history of the world," he has said. I think comparable comments can be made about more Scorpions in every line of work than about any other sign of the zodiac. People are prone to copying you and borrowing from you and even stealing from you. They don't always consciously know they're doing it, and they may not give you proper credit. I'm guessing that you may be experiencing this phenomenon right now. My advice? First, be pleased about how much clout you're wielding. Second, if anyone is truly ripping you off, speak up about it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21): "Vainly I sought nourishment in shadows and errors," wrote author Jorge Luis Borges. We have all been guilty of miscalculations like those. Each of us has sometimes put our faith in people and ideas that weren't worthy of us. None of us is so wise that we always choose influences that provide the healthiest fuel. That's the bad news, Sagittarius. The good news is that you now have excellent instincts about where you can find the best nourishment.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19): Poet Adrienne Rich wrote, "When a woman tells the truth, she is creating the possibility for more truth around her." I believe that this same assertion is true about people of all genders. I also suspect that right now you are in a particularly pivotal position to be a candid reveler: to enhance and refine everyone's truth-telling by being a paragon of honesty yourself. To achieve the best results, I encourage you to think hard about what exactly it means for you to tell the deep and entire truth.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18): Through some odd Aquarian-like quirk, astrologers have come to harbor the apparently paradoxical view that your sign is ruled by both Saturn and Uranus. At first glance, that's crazy! Saturn is the planet of discipline, responsibility, conservatism, and order. Uranus is the planet of surprise, rebellion, barrier breaking, and liberation. How can you Aquarians incorporate the energies of both? Well, that would require a lengthy explanation beyond the scope of this horoscope. But I will tell you this: During the rest of the year 2020, you will have more potential to successfully coordinate your inner Saturn and your inner Uranus than you have had in years. Homework: Meditate on how you will do just that.

PISCES (Feb 19–March 20): In 1637, renowned English poet John Milton wrote "Lycidas," a poetic elegy in honor of a dead friend. Reading it today, almost four centuries later, we are struck by how archaic and obscure the language is, with phrases like "O ye laurels" and "Ah! who hath left my dearest pledge?" A famous 20th-century Piscean poet named Robert Lowell was well-educated enough to understand Milton's meaning, but also decided to "translate" all of "Lycidas" into plainspoken American-style English. I'd love to see you engage in comparable activities during the coming weeks, Pisces: updating the past, reshaping and reinterpreting your old stories, revising the ways you talk about and think about key memories.

Homework: Don't tolerate bullying from critical voices in your head or from supposedly "nice" people who are trying to guilt-trip you. Testify at freewillastrology.com.



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The logo for Pan-Eros foundation features a close-up photograph of a person's skin and a rope. To the right, the word "PAN" is in a serif font above a large curly brace that spans between "PAN" and "EROS". Below the brace, the word "foundation" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font.

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Sat 3/14 - Bondage For Sex
Thu 3/18 - Sex Positive Game Night
Mon 3/23 - The Pleasure Practice: Feel The Earth Kissing Back
Info: Pan-Eros.org Tix: strangertickets.com/go/pan-eros

The logo for Ruckus Sparking the Revolution features a white bird icon on the left and the word "RUCKUS" in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, the tagline "SPARKING THE REVOLUTION" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font.

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A shirtless man with dark hair and a beard is standing in a doorway, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt that is open at the collar, revealing his chest. The background shows an interior room with warm lighting.

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A muscular man with a beard and short hair is shown from the waist up, wearing a black tank top. He is holding a thick, coiled grey hose over his shoulder with both hands. The background is dark and textured.

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Savage Love

BY DAN SAVAGE

Spit and Polish

I'm a 31-year-old cis bisexual woman. I'm hetero-romantic and in a monogamish relationship with a man. We play with other people together. I've never liked giving blowjobs because I was taught that girls who give blowjobs are "sluts." Phrases that are meant to be insulting like "You suck," "Suck it," "Go suck a dick," etc. created a strong association in my mind between blowjobs and men degrading women. (Men take what they want, and women get used and called sluts.) As such, I never sucked much dick—and if I did, it was only briefly and never to completion. I also find spit and come kind of gross. Even when I get really wet during sex, it's a bit of a turnoff, and I hate that it makes me feel gross and wish I could change my thinking around it. Early in our relationship, my husband noticed the lack of blowjobs and confronted me, saying they were really important to him. At first I felt a little insecure about being inadequate in this area, but then I decided to do some research, because I honestly thought it wasn't just me and most women don't like giving blowjobs. (Because how could they? It's so demeaning!) But I learned lots of my female friends enjoy giving blowjobs—they like being in control, giving a partner pleasure, etc.—so I googled ways to start liking blowjobs and I've started to get into them! It's great! Except I still don't like when he comes in my mouth or if a blowjob gets super spitty. But my husband loves sloppy blowjobs; he says the lubrication feels good and he enjoys the "dirtiness" of it. If I know he's getting close to coming or if it gets super wet and I have spit all over my face, my gag reflex activates and it's hard to continue. I feel like I'm at an impasse. I want to give him the blowjobs he wants, but I don't know how to get around (or hopefully start enjoying!) the super-sloppy-through-to-completion blowjobs he likes. Do you have any advice?

Sloppy Oral Always Keeps Erections Drenched

You play with other people together, SOAKED, but have you tried observing—by which I mean actively observing, by which I mean actually participating—while your husband gets a sloppy blowjob from someone who really enjoys giving them? If someone else was blowing your husband while you made out with him or sat on his face or played with his tits or whatever might enhance the experience for him... and you watched another woman choke that dick down... you might come to appreciate what's in it for the person giving the sloppy blowjob. Most people who were taught that girls who give blowjobs are sluts were also taught that open relationships are wrong and women who have sex with other women are going to hell. You got over what you were taught about monogamish relationships and being bisexual years ago, SOAKED, and recently got over what you were taught about women who enjoy sucking cock. While some people

have physical limitations they can't overcome—some gag reflexes are unconquerable—watching someone enjoy something you don't can make you want to experience it yourself.

But even if your observations don't trigger a desire to get down there and get sloppy and swallow his load yourself, your husband would be getting the kind of blowjobs he enjoys most and you would be an intrinsic



JOE NEWTON

part of them. If you set up the date, you'd be making them happen, even if you weren't doing them. And if you were into the scenario and/or the other woman—if the whole thing got you off, not just off the hook—then there would be something in it for you, too.

And take it from me, SOAKED, to be kissed with both passion and gratitude by, say, a husband (ahem) who's really enjoying something someone else is doing for/to him—whether or not that something is something you also enjoy doing for/to him from time to time—is really fucking hot. So even if you never come around—even if sloppy blowjobs are something you have to outsource permanently—you and your husband can enjoy years of sloppy blowjobs together, with the assistance of a series of very special (and very slutty) guest stars. And you can always get those blowjobs started—the non-sloppy, non-spitty initial phase—before passing the baton off to your guest star.

Married 40-year-old gay guy here. I hate beards—the look, the feel, the smell—and I miss the good old days when the only beards gay dudes had were metaphorical. When I got back from a long business trip, my hot, sexy, previously smooth husband of many years was sporting a beard. Unsurprisingly, I hate it and find it to be a complete turnoff. However, he says this is controlling behavior on my part, it's his body and his choice, and he's hurt that I'm rejecting him. He also says I'll get used to it and he doesn't plan to keep it forever. I agree that it's his body and

his choice, but I think he should still take me into consideration, and that it's actually him who's rejecting me, by choosing the beard over me. What's your take?

Spouse's Hairiness Averts Virile Erection

I'm with you, SHAVE, but I'm also with him. It is his body, and growing a beard is something he can choose to do with the face section of his body. But that my body/my choice stuff cuts both ways: Your body is yours, and what you do with your body is your choice. And you can choose not to press your body against his—or press your face against his—while he's got a beard. If long business trips are a regular part of your life, maybe he could grow his beard out in your absence and shave when you get home. (Full disclosure: I have a pronounced anti-beard bias, which means I'm not exactly impartial.)

I'm a 30-year-old queer cis woman and a late bloomer. My first relationship—with a hetero cis man—began when I was 28. He was my first sexual partner. I fell in love hard, but he broke up with me after almost two years. Months later, I know I'm not ready to fall in love again, but I have a high sex drive. I masturbate frequently, but when I think about playful/romantic sex, the only memories I have are with the ex, which makes me sad. So I watch rough porn, which keeps me from thinking about the ex. But watching bondage videos alone isn't the sex life I want. Should I Tinder or Lex up some rough casual sex? Get drunk and get some more memories in the mix? (I don't think I could get out of my head enough to do this sober.) Assuming I minimize the risks of pregnancy and STIs and partners that are bad at consent, what's the risk of going for it? How does it compare to the risk of getting stuck in this nowhere land and never finding a new love/sex buddy? Or maybe I need to get drunk and jerk off alone without the porn and just feel all my feelings and avoid any risk of crying on some poor stranger?

I Need A Plan Today

Do it all, INAPT. Masturbate to kink porn and feel dirty, masturbate to your memories and feel sad, and put yourself out there on Tinder and Lex and see if there isn't someone who intrigues you. But stop telling yourself you can't find romance with a partner you first met up with for rough sex. I know lots of people who first met up with someone for rough sex, clicked on a deeper level, started dating, and have since enjoyed years of sex that's both rough and loving. Finally, booze has a way of intensifying feelings of sadness—so if you don't want to wind up sobbing on the shoulder of some poor stranger, don't get drunk before that hookup. ■

*mail@savagelove.net
@fakedansavage on Twitter*

ON THE LOVECAST
All things weird with Lester Black:
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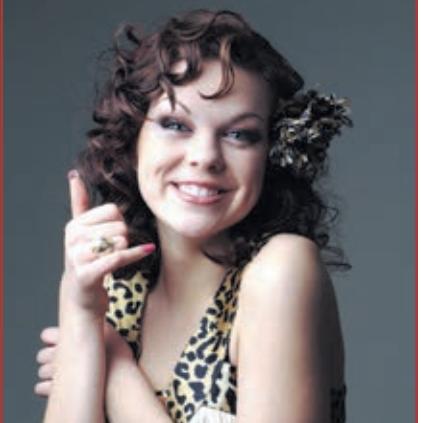
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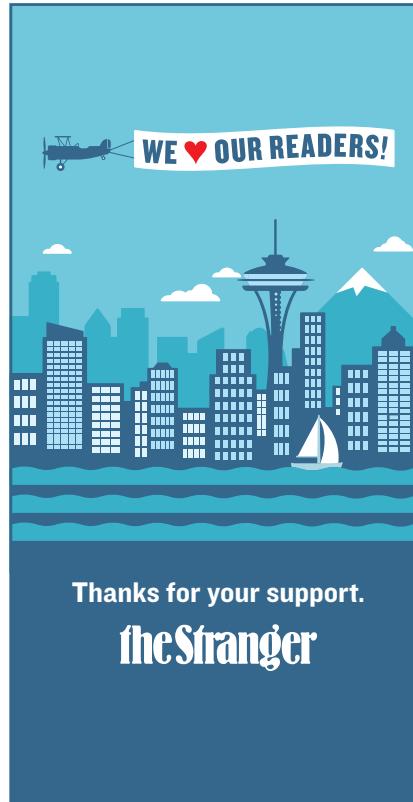


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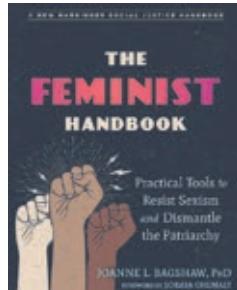
Women's History Month

Top Picks

TUES MARCH 3

Joanne Bagshaw: How to Resist Sexism and Dismantle the Patriarchy

If you're exhausted from the daily burdens of misogyny and marginalization, go to this talk by psychology professor and sex therapist Joanne Bagshaw, whose new book *The Feminist Handbook: Practical Tools to Resist Sexism and Dismantle the Patriarchy* promises a range of strategies to resist the mental effects of sexism and racism. Plus, she'll offer ways to "create lasting change through activism and community." (Town Hall, 7:30 pm, \$5.) **JOULE ZELMAN**



THURS MARCH 5

Be Bold Seattle International Women's Day

The World Economic Forum's 2017 Global Gender Report estimated the date for full gender equality throughout the world as 217 years in the future. At this celebration of International Women's Day, speakers will hold forth on how to speed up the processes of gender justice and parity. This year, Seattle Public Schools superintendent Denise Juneau and poet Louie Tan Vital are among the special guests, as well as Marilyn Jean Smith and Lore Ameloot (Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services) Nikki Gane (Dignity for Divas), Scilla Andreen (IndieFlix), Chantel Jackson (CJs Phillys), and Poppy MacDonald (USAFACTS). (*Benaroya Hall*, 5:30-8:30 pm, \$65.) **ELAINA FRIEDMAN**

SUN MARCH 8

Drink Like a Girl!

Whiskey enthusiast Julia Ritz Toffoli and her friends were weary of hearing men exclaim, "Whoa, that's a strong drink for a little lady! Sure you can handle it?" every time they ordered their favorite liquor. So they founded Women Who Whiskey, an "experimental whiskey club for women." At this Seattle Cocktail Week event hosted by the society's Seattle chapter in honor of International Women's Day, Wanderback Whiskey Co. co-owner Sasha Muir will lead a whiskey tasting of limited-edition American single-malt whiskeys and give a presentation on the "American single-malt revolution" and her company's process. Tickets include a cocktail, snacks, and a whiskey tasting flight. (*Palace Kitchen*, 4:30-6:30 pm, \$30.) **JULIANNE BELL**

Shall Not Be Denied

In this statement of solidarity with women's activism, the music of American women past and present will be performed by choral group Seattle Pro Musica to mark the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, guaranteeing women the right to vote. The program will include pieces by

We

- Pave your roads.
- Keep your lights on.
- Raise your kids.
- Fly your airplanes.
- Landscape your parks.
- Grow your food.
- Keep your water safe.
- Nurse your parents.
- Paint your houses.
- Fight your fires.
- Weld your broken axles.
- Haul your garbage.
- Cook your meals.
- Tile your floors
- Fix your plumbing.
- Build your homes.
- Lead your communities.
- Deliver your babies.
- Design your skyscrapers.
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- Bandage your bruises.
- Replace your sewer lines.
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Women's Work



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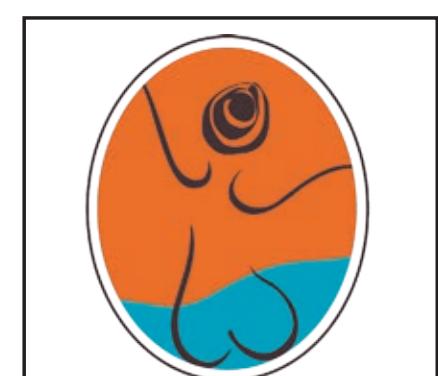
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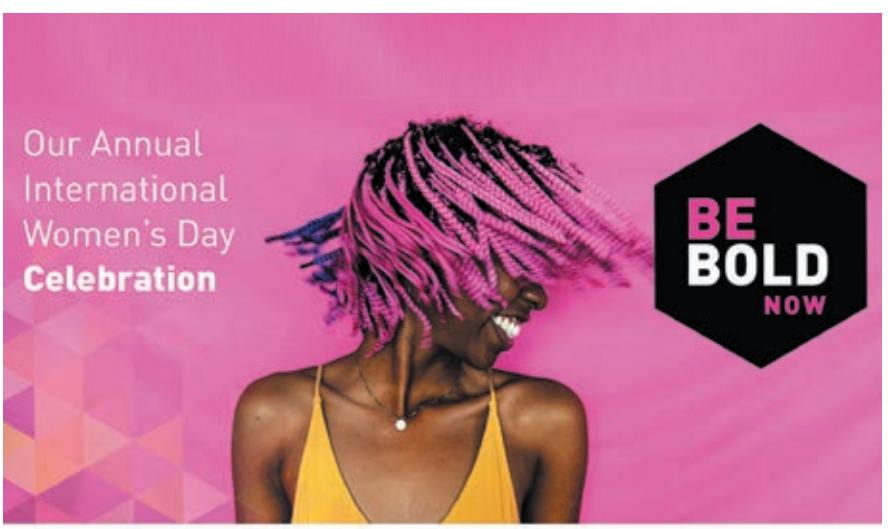
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Womxn's March on Seattle 2020: The Next Revolutionaries

Since the roads were icy on the anniversary of Trump's inauguration, the organizers of the fourth annual Womxn's March postponed the landmark Trump-era resistance event to fatefully align with International Women's Day (Sat March 8). Even though senators have voted to acquit Donald Trump on both articles of impeachment, the rights and safety of womxn, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, immigrants, and anyone else who is not a wealthy white man are still at risk. Join a procession from the Beacon Hill Playfield to City Hall Park. Concurrently, in Dr. Jose Rizal Park, South Asian- and Asian Pacific Islander-focused anti-violence organization API-Chaya will lead an additional march and rally advocating for working womxn and immigrant communities. (Beacon Hill Playground, 1-4 pm, free.) ELAINA FRIEDMAN

MORE TheStranger.com/EverOut

More Picks

READINGS & TALKS

Alys Eve Weinbaum: *The Afterlife of Reproductive Slavery* Elliott Bay Book Company, Fri March 6, 7 pm, free

Battle for the Ballot: *Women and the Vote* Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI), Sat March 14, 1 pm, \$25 museum admission

Bernardine Evaristo: *Girl Woman Other*

Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Mon March 23, 7 pm, free

Claudia Castro Luna, Corinne Chin, Erika Schultz: *'Killing Marías'* and Women of Ciudad Juárez Elliott Bay Book Company, Sun March 29, 6 pm, free

Mikaela Kiner: *Female Firebrands* Elliott Bay Book Company, Wed March 18, 7 pm, free

Sierra Crane Murdoch: *Yellow Bird* Elliott Bay Book Company, Tues March 3, 7 pm, free

Stephanie Land: *Maid* Elliott Bay Book Company, Mon March 16, 7 pm, free

Sylvia Ann Hewlett: #MeToo in the Corporate World Town Hall, Sun March 8, 7:30 pm, \$5

Visionaries: Female Voices in Art Panel Discussion Patricia Rovzar Gallery, Sat March 28, 12 pm, free

Edits for Women: Wiki-thoning the Suffrage Centennial Washington State History Museum, Sat March 21, 10 am-4 pm, free

International Women's Day Mentorship Event Atlas Workbase, Sat March 7, 9:30-11:30 am, \$35/\$45

Oxfam America Presents: Gender Justice = Justice for All Town Hall, Wed March 18, 6:30 pm, free

The Pink Party Magnuson Park Hangar 30, Sat March 28, 7-10 pm

Bodysex Workshop Venue provided with RSVP, March 21-22, \$697



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In support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Seattle NOW presents a special screening of the award-winning documentary **CATCHING SIGHT OF THELMA AND LOUISE FOLLOWED BY A PANEL DISCUSSION** Sunday, April 19th, 4pm Northwest Film Forum A portion of the proceeds will be donated to a partner organization working to support survivors of gender-based violence.

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THE NEXT REVOLUTIONARIES

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March 21-22, Seattle
Developed by Dr. Betty Dodson

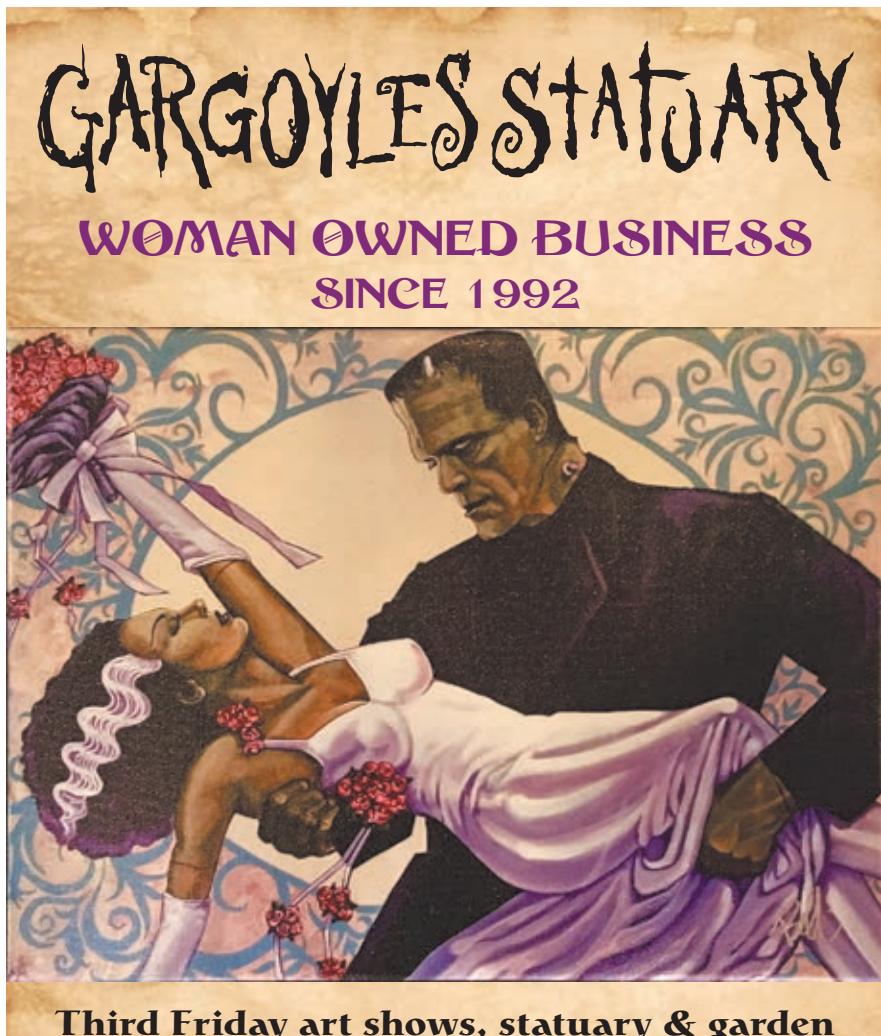
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TRAILER PARK TO TABLE

THINGS TO DO → Women's History Month

Seattle Womxn's March Brunch & Rally
The Riveter Capitol Hill, Sun March 8, 9-10:30 am, free

MUSIC

Celebrate Women! with The Red Rose Combo
The Royal Room, Thurs March 26, 7:30 pm, \$15

Jazz Shout
Jet City Improv, Sun March 22, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$35

Psallite!
Seattle First Baptist Church, Sun March 15, 3 pm, \$16-\$28

Pussy Riot
Neumos, Fri March 20, 8 pm, \$26

Seattle Women of Country
Hard Rock Cafe, Sat March 7, 9 pm, \$10/\$15

Shall Not Be Denied
Trinity Lutheran Church, Sat March 7, 7:30 pm, \$0-\$41

PERFORMANCE

Beauty and Duty: WWII Edition
Museum of Flight, Sat March 14, 2 pm, \$25 museum admission

The Fifth Wave
West of Lenin, March 12-28, Thurs-Sun, \$20-\$50

Glimmer
Jet City Improv, March 5-20, \$17/\$18



COURTESY OF FRYE ART MUSEUM

FILM

'Pretty Strong'
The Mountaineers, Tues March 3, 7 pm, \$15

The Moors
Theatre Off Jackson, Fri-Sun, 7:30 pm, \$1-\$25 sliding scale, through March 7

Seventy-Nine Cents: An All-Womxn Comedy Show
Rendezvous, Fri March 20, 9:30 pm, \$15-\$20

The Women of Lockerbie
Glenn Hughes Penthouse Theater, Sat Feb 29, Tues March 3, March 5-15, \$20

GEEK

Girls' Night Out
Pacific Science Center, Sat March 7, 3-6 pm, \$35

Golden Girls Trivia
Backyard, Sun March 8, 7-9 pm, \$25

Happy Hour: Hear (Her) story
Pacific Science Center, Fri March 20, 6:30-10 pm, \$20

Womxn of Color in STEM
Pacific Science Center, Tues March 31, 7-9 pm, \$5

VISUAL ART

29th Century Women
Vashon Center for the Arts, March 6-28, 6-9 pm, free

Black Fashionista!
Renton History Museum, Thurs March 5, 6 pm, \$5

Hear Us Rise: APA Voices in Feminism
Wing Luke Museum, March 6-Feb 22, Tues-Sun, 10 am-5 pm, \$17

Iconic Black Women:
Ain't I a Woman
Northwest African American Museum, Wed-Sun, \$7, through March 15

Unsettling Femininity
Frye Art Museum, Tues-Sun, free, through Aug 23

FOOD & DRINK
Convergence #67 - At Large + Washington Outdoor Women
Watershed Pub & Kitchen, Wed March 25, 6-9 pm

History Café: Women in Washington Wine
Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI), Wed March 18, 6:30-8 pm, free



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Video stills from *The Last Angel of History*, 1995, Black Audio Film Collective, John Akomfrah, single channel colour video, sound, 45 minutes 7 seconds, © Smoking Dogs Films; Courtesy Smoking Dogs Films and Lisson Gallery.

SAM SEATTLE ART MUSEUM

THINGS TO DO → Art

Vibe Check

Tara Flores's paintings seem to vibrate on another level.

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

When I recently met up with Gig Harbor-based painter Tara Flores, there were crystals knocking around in her pocket. She produced them for me before we started talking: amethyst, apatite, agate, rhodonite, and others. She told me she keeps them close to her while she works translating each crystal's energy into her paintings.

In *Subtle Matter* at J. Rinehart Gallery, Flores meditates on and responds to the healing properties of individual crystals.

TARA FLORES:
SUBTLE MATTER
J. Rinehart Gallery
Through April 4

The title of the show refers to the esoteric concept of the etheric or subtle body, the layer of energy just outside our physical bodies. It also speaks to the subtle effects that Flores believes crystals have on us. "Everything is light, love and light. It sounds flippant and cheesy sometimes, but [everything] really is. All of existence is just energy in relation to each other," she told me.

Each painting is based off a crystal she felt drawn to, reflecting the colors in it.

This may sound a bit "woo-woo" to you, but the way Flores explores this idea of energy—especially as it pertains to crystals, color, and spirituality—is compelling. She started

this practice in 2014 when her stepfather suddenly passed away, thinking about what happens to a person's essence after they die.

"Everyone has that question, but it occurred to me that his passing had caused so much emotion and energy to well up in the people closest to him that maybe that's where his energy went, and I could just transfer it," she told me. Drawing on her fascination with the nature of apoptotic cells and cellular death on a microscopic level, she honed her focus to investigate the healing properties (and vibes) of stones.

Each painting in *Subtle Matter* is based off a crystal she felt drawn to, reflecting the colors present in the stone and also the healing properties said to be associated with it. Using acrylic and house paint, she starts with a base wash of colors in the background, and then creates a hexagonal lattice on top that mimics the stable molecular structure of crystals themselves.

Over that are seed-like rays that emanate from either the center or corner of the piece. Layered with two or three different colors found in the stone, they represent a sort of radiant energy meant to mirror the crystal's supposed energy. The seed-rays turn into colorful dashes, which are actually Morse code. Flores learned the code to translate properties associated with each crystal as a form of meditation. So when you're looking at *Amber*, the painting is communicating "Ancient Soothing Forest Magic," or if you're standing in front of *Amazonite*, it's telling you "Truth Flows" in its corona.



COURTESY OF J. RINEHART GALLERY

Seed-like rays represent a sort of radiant energy. The dashes are Morse code.

It could be easy to disregard Flores's approach to her work as being trendy new-agey posturing. And yet, Her paintings do seem to vibrate on another level. Her sense of color, layering of meaning, and hours of focus and meditation are somehow apparent. There's a touch of the sublime to the show.

As we chatted, I kept a firm grip on labra-

dorite, a feldspar mineral whose color shifts depending on how the light hits it, like glitter in water: blue, yellow, green, brown. I felt entranced by it. The painting, with its green color wash background and blue rays, was telling me "Seeing Present Moment Wisdom." Leaving the gallery I thought: Message received. ■

Top Picks

Nikita Ares: 'CHADA!'

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

Last year, Seattle-based artist Nikita Ares adorned white-walled galleries and blank front doors with her molten, colorful, abstract compositions. And this year, she's back with a new exhibition, *CHADA!* at Glass Box Gallery, warming up our drenched, shivering Seattle souls with bright and immersive landscapes that are practically visual permutations of "!!!!!!!"

Ares says that the title of her show, *CHADA!*, is a term uniquely used by Kagayanons, people from Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, her hometown. It means "wow/nice." The 25-plus paintings and drawings in the gallery embody that exclamation.

She has said that with her work, she's not composing landscapes—rather, environments that slurp



up the viewer, entrenching them into its bombastic and energetic space. "I try to make you not only see but experience and feel all these different things with different components: dimension, lines, and color," Ares told me early last year.

where to look! The orange screams at me while the blue makes me want to float away; the red encourages me to make out with it while the yellow tells me to calm the fuck down. You'll leave this show feeling recharged. (On view through Sat March 14, Glass Box Gallery, Thurs-Sat, free)

CLOSING SAT MARCH 21

Jay Stern: 'I Remember Feeling Far'

Seattle-based artist Jay Stern is presenting new paintings at Specialist in Pioneer Square. *I Remember Feeling Far* revolves around memory, spatial reflection, and the relationship between the physical and emotional sides of experience. Often, Stern's paintings seem like structures in themselves, though only partly: a vaulted ceiling here, a window there, the checkered vinyl floor of an old craftsman house. His work balances the abstract and the figurative, filled with goopy blues, olive greens, and neutral tones that suggest an

One of the centerpieces of the new show is *Kasamas Rule the World!*, the biggest drawing she's worked on to date. I felt I could truly take a seat in the vibrant oil pastel and colored pencil drawing of this massive, larger-than-life piece. It's hard to know

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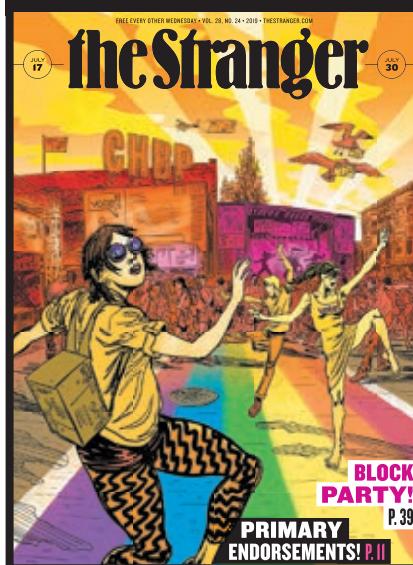
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external landscape's intrusion into quiet domestic interiors. (Specialist, Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

MARCH 5-26

Ramiro Gomez

The paintings of Los Angeles-based artist Ramiro Gomez recall the bright, pristine works of David Hockney. The blaring blue sky, the green grass, the stark white walls, the economy of figures and emotions. But Gomez takes these scenes a step further, centering the people who maintain these pristine spaces and are often left out—Latino landscapers, janitors, maids, and valets. Using his perspective as the child of undocumented immigrants from Mexico and being a former nanny of a West Hollywood family, Gomez makes visible the “invisible” labor in LA, unspooling the racial and class dynamics inherent in wealthy spaces. (Greg Kucera Gallery, Tues-Sat, free.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

FRI MARCH 6

Monsen Photography Lecture: Catherine Opie

This year, the Henry Art Gallery is bringing ceramicist, collage artist, and fine art photographer (and queer icon) Catherine Opie to speak at its Monsen Photography Lecture. Opie is internationally renowned for her portraiture of the lesbian and gay community in Los Angeles in the 1990s, using traditional techniques with “less traditional” subjects in order to explore gender, sexuality, and family. There’s an unflinching honesty to her photos; she often turns the camera back on herself and her family, conveying an intimacy that isn’t voyeuristic, but thoughtful. Opie’s work isn’t limited to just portraiture, but also includes landscape and cityscape photography that focuses on issues of homelessness and gentrification. (Henry Art Gallery, 6:30 pm, free with registration.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

MORE

TheStranger.com/Art

More Picks

MUSEUMS

Georgia O’Keeffe:
Abstract Variations
Seattle Art Museum,
March 5-June 28, daily,
\$20

Karen Kessler: here is
the Place
Shift Gallery, March 5-28,
Fri-Sat, free

Jessica Cantlin:
Latitude
Winston Wächter Fine
Art, Mon-Sat, free,
through March 10

John Akomfrah:
Future History
Seattle Art Museum,
March 5-May 3, Wed-
Sun, \$30

Robert Williams: The
Father of Exponential
Imagination
Bellevue Arts Museum,
Wed-Sun, \$15, through
March 8

Max Planck: Images of
Science
Goethe Pop-up Space,
Tues-Fri, free, through
March 6

Tony Angell: Drawings
in Stone
Foster/White Gallery,
March 5-21, Tues-Sat,
free

ART EVENTS
ACES: Artists of Color
Expo & Symposium
Seattle Center, Feb 28-29,
free

MORE EVENTS

TheStranger.com/EverOut

THINGS TO DO → Performance

Michete's New Face

A post-surgery interview with Seattle's pop icon.

BY JASMYNE KEIMIG

Seattle-based musician and drag performer Michete recently underwent facial feminization surgery (FFS) and has not been seen in public for several weeks. Her fans and foes are receiving information about her surgery results only through a steady drip of unhinged and conflicting tweets. "Joe came over tonight and told me that I look [REDACTED]," Michete tweeted recently. It's chaotic and brilliant.

But in a very on-brand move, Michete is hosting Clapped!, a drag and music event where she'll dramatically reveal her new face. Done in collaboration with the BeautyBoiz collective, the party (and one of the last events at Fred Wildlife Refuge) will feature some of the hottest drag entertainers and DJs working in Seattle.

Hey, Michete, how are you feeling/healing?

I think I'm doing all right. I just got back from LA, and it's definitely nice to be home again. The process of recovering from FFS has been really wild so far, physically and psychologically speaking. I look completely insane and bruised up and swollen, and I can't move most of my face, and everything's numb, and I'm having a lot of anxiety about my results. But I also got my entire face chopped up eight days ago, and healing from FFS takes a long time, so I'm doing my best to be patient and remain calm and trust the process.

So for those who may not know, what does "clapped" mean?

LMAO, it literally just means ugly. The



JUSTIN ORTIZ

Michete will reveal her new face at one of the last events at Fred Wildlife Refuge.

name of the party came about when I was backstage grabbing my shit after my last gig before surgery. I was saying goodbye to some friends and I made a joke about my

surgery getting fucked up and me coming back ugly. My friend Joe Valley (who is also DJing at the party) immediately goes: "That'd be COOL! You come back and you're

just clapped!" I was so taken off guard by that response, and it was so fucking funny to me. Eventually, the concept of me getting surgery and coming back uglier than before became the entire mythos of the party.

Well, are you clapped?

My marketing answer is "You'll have to come and see." But my sincere answer is that I don't know. Looking in the mirror fucking freaks me out right now, I can tell you that. I might be fucking clapped, Jasmyne.

Why did you decide to do a face reveal?

Because I'm extra and dramatic and I love attention. How many opportunities will I get to reveal an entirely new face to my community? Why not make an obnoxiously big deal about it?

Are you a drag performer or a pop star? Both? Which one are you at this event?

I'm absolutely both. At this party? I'm neither. I'm a victim.

What's your next transformation? Can we expect a reveal party, too?

I have no clue. Maybe I'll get huge titties and throw a titty reveal party. I would like to think I'm done getting surged up for the time being, but we'll see. There will definitely be more parties I throw in the future, though—that's a guarantee. That's the kind of girl I am.

This is a curveball, but who is your favorite twink?

I'm my favorite twink. And if you think women can't be twinks, I've got news for you, bitch. ■



Top Picks

THURS FEB 27

John Cameron Mitchell: The Origin of Love Tour

The guy who starred in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*—the original stage show and then the movie—is coming to town. Not only did he star in it, he wrote the damn thing (with musical collaborator Stephen Trask). This is not a drill. He is a certified genius. He will tell stories from the show's 25-year history and sing songs from *Hedwig*, as well as some new music. He told me years ago he was writing a sequel. Maybe this is our sneak peek. (*Moore Theatre*, 8 pm, \$50-\$65.) CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

MARCH 5-16

Raja Feather Kelly: 'UGLY (Black Queer Zoo)'

Raja Feather Kelly is here to celebrate the many nuances of black queer joy in *UGLY (Black Queer Zoo)*, which debuted at Brooklyn's Bushwick Starr in 2018. In a nod to a line from an Anne Sexton poem, Kelly waltzes onto a bright-yellow stage wearing only a few articles of bright-yellow clothing. He moves to pulsing electronic music from Emily Auciello "while interpreting the words of an essay he wrote," according to an interview with the *New York Times*. The show is being brought to town as part of Washington Ensemble Theatre's GUSH series. (12th Avenue Arts, \$25.) RICH SMITH

MARCH 7-8

Doug Stanhope

Michael Ian Black once described Doug Stanhope as comedy's Charles Bukowski, likely because Stanhope is dark, offensive, vulgar, and sometimes downright brutal. His style is a mix of volatile social criticism and anecdotal humor taken to self-hate extremes. Past subjects have included abortion, his own alcoholism and self-defeating behavior, capitalism and how the US's idea of poverty is radically different from other parts of the world ("Our landfills are third-world bling"), football, death, and everything in between. He has four comedy albums, three stand-up specials, a few books, and, like seemingly all comics out there these days, a podcast (*The Doug Stanhope Podcast*). He sold out his Saturday night date and



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BRIAN HENNIGAN

added a Sunday show, which should be on your radar, although if you offend easily, Doug's humor ain't for you. Check out my interview with him at thestranger.com/dougstanhope to get a feel for his acerbic wit. (*Neptune Theatre*, 8 pm, \$49.)

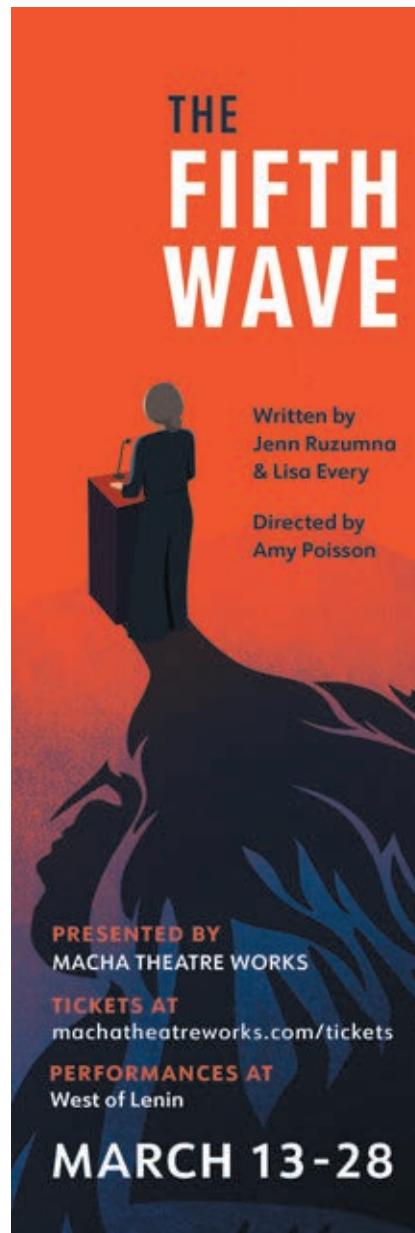
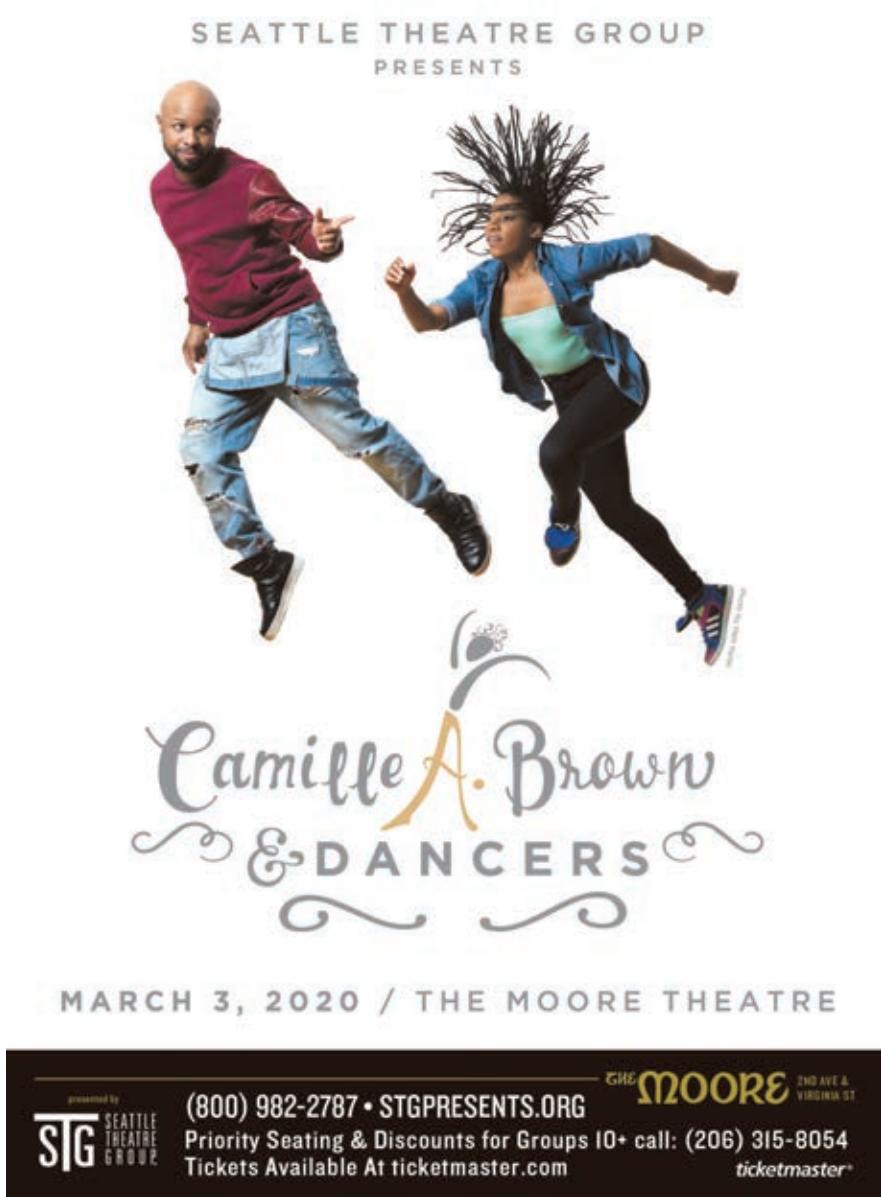
LEILANI POLK

SUN MARCH 8

'Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood'

Fred Rogers might be gone (RIP, you lovely, lovely man), but his legacy lives on in *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood*, an animated Daytime Emmy-winning PBS show for preschool-aged children. It's based on the Neighborhood of Make-Believe from *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* and features characters of all shapes, sizes, and animal (and non-animal) persuasions. It's sweet and charming and kind of annoying, but it's also one of my daughter's favorite shows, so this live theatrical production with all the *Daniel Tiger* characters ("filled with singing, dancing, and laughter") seems like a no-brainer. (*Paramount Theatre*, 2 pm, \$16-\$76.) LEILANI POLK

MORE TheStranger.com/Theater



More Picks

Disney's 'Frozen'
Paramount Theatre,
\$30+, through March 1

Last Days of the Tsars
Stimson-Green Mansion,
Tues-Fri and Sun, 7:30 pm,
\$49-\$69, through
March 15

Make Maritess Disappear!
Rendezvous, March 8-10,
\$18-\$35

Red Light Night
Underbelly, Fri Feb 28,
9-11 pm, \$25

Snow White
Seattle Children's
Theatre, \$20, through
March 8

Tim & Eric: Mandatory Attendance World Tour
Moore Theatre, Fri Feb 28,
8 pm, \$89+

Todd Barry with Guests
Neptune Theatre, Wed
March 11, 8 pm, \$20/\$24

The Turn of the Screw
Book-It Repertory
Theatre, Wed-Sun, \$26-\$50, through March 8

Whose Live Anyway?
Moore Theatre, Fri
March 6, 8 pm, \$35/\$75

MORE EVENTS TheStranger.com/EverOut

THINGS TO DO → Books & Talks

Falling for *The Slip*

Kary Wayson's long-awaited book of longing.

BY RICH SMITH

Seattle poet Kary Wayson's second collection, *The Slip*, comes 11 years after her debut, *American Husband*, which itself came long after she'd been working the reading circuits as one of the country's most skillful lyric poets.

But it takes a while in the mines to find diamonds in the dirt of everyday experience, and even longer to polish them up with the few tools poetry provides. The time Wayson took to fashion the multifaceted jewels she gives us in *The Slip* was well worth it.

It's a joy to try to keep up with Wayson as she unsettles every settled thought.

Both books share some subjects: the paradox of the self (we're singular, yet we contain multitudes), the lover(s), the mother, the father, aborted beginnings of all kinds, and the way we never stop loving people we've loved. She's particularly interested in how impossible it is to reconcile that last subject with the language we have for love. Words

themselves, with their many outs, allow us so many ways to evade commitments.

For the sake of conversation, I'll risk what the book doesn't and reduce it to one narrative. *The Slip*'s speaker has reached the end of longing for love in the way you long for it in your wild 20s (and your even wilder 30s). She now reflects on what good any of that longing did her, whether she'll ever long again, whether longing means being alive, and, if so, what that says about what she thinks living means.

"I used to think of people, of lovers / of me as ways / to take. I'd take / a way. Each way seemed to seal off the others. / Then I'd run right out like I did as a kid, from the plane / to look for my mother. Now I feel / no longing for men," she writes in "The Day," one of *The Slip*'s many exemplary poems, and one that highlights Wayson's particular gifts as a poet. Listen to the grand music she makes with small words. See how she uses breaks to pack in so much meaning and humor into

every poem carries that surprise flash of insight, and that combo of melancholy and humor.

A restlessness in Wayson's voice lends the poems urgency. She uses poetry as a way to think, not merely as an artful record of thought. Or, as she puts it: "I've followed my thinking like a man out driving / — and just back there he missed the turn."

The shape of the book also contributes to this sense of restlessness. Though the poems stand on their own, each leads to the next as an extension or a refutation of the previous poem's argument. After Wayson presents a funny, exasperated poem about the pluralistic nature of relationships, she counters herself: "Am / can be without an I. Something sitting / insists in the window. Something of a mother / to come," she writes, evoking the abstract complexity of Wallace Stevens and Emily Dickinson.

It's a joy to try to keep up with Wayson as she unsettles every settled thought, and tries (successfully) to return mystery to the oldest subject in the book. Let's hope it doesn't take another decade until we have this joy again. ■



Top Picks

THURS FEB 27

Mitchell S. Jackson:
'Survival Math'

In *Survival Math: Notes on an All-American Family*, Portland-born author and University of Chicago writing professor Mitchell S. Jackson looks at the history of his own family and discovers within it the history of African Americans in the Pacific Northwest, employing the heavily footnoted, maximalist prose that was popular in the late 1990s and early aughts. In an interview with Hot 97's Ebro Darden, Mitchell describes survival math as "the calculations you have to make when you're faced with a mortal threat."



Living in a region of the country founded explicitly on the promise of creating an all-white state, he and his family had to figure that math all too often. His mother's addiction to crack and his own drug dealing made the math that much harder.

Throughout the book, Mitchell uses his personal stories as a jumping off point to discuss larger trends, tracing the roots of his troubles to ideas of blackness in Ancient Greece and misogyny in English literature. (Elliott Bay Book Company, 7 pm, free.) RICH SMITH

FRI FEB 28

'Climate Depression: Confronting Eco-Anxiety in the Age of Crisis'

A lot of people are waking up to the idea that ecological apocalypse is upon us. Among other things, this revelation is bumming people out. A lifetime spent studying poetry, or frog gonads, or software doesn't seem so bad in a world with a steady, foreseeable future. But when you finally realize that your children are going to spend most of their lives trying to siphon crude oil from rusty barrels in the dead of night, a wave of apathy hits you, and life doesn't seem so good anymore. Researchers are calling this phenomenon "ecogrief" or "climate dread." Dr. Jennifer Atkinson, an instructor at UW Bothell, has been teaching a class on the subject for a few years now. In her

lecture, she'll offer some strategies necessary to "build the resilience to stay engaged in climate solutions over the long run." Hopefully she'll also include a handout with instructions for building a dune buggy out of bones and grass. (Pacific Science Center, 7 pm, \$5.) RICH SMITH

**Hugo Literary Series:
Behind Closed Doors**

Charles D'Ambrosio's writing is unforgettable. It stamps itself to your brain the way light stamps itself to your eyes. He is the best writer ever to come out of Seattle—he writes better fiction than Raymond Carver did, he writes better nonfiction than Mary McCarthy did—but we have not seen him in these parts for years. Since publishing the essay collection *Loitering*, he's been busy teaching at the Iowa Writers' Workshop and working on a novel. On this night, he returns to the city where he was born with new writing commissioned by Hugo House under the theme "Behind Closed Doors," which is a great theme. He'll be joined by the writers Anthony Swofford (*Jarhead*) and Mitchell S. Jackson (*Survival Math*) as

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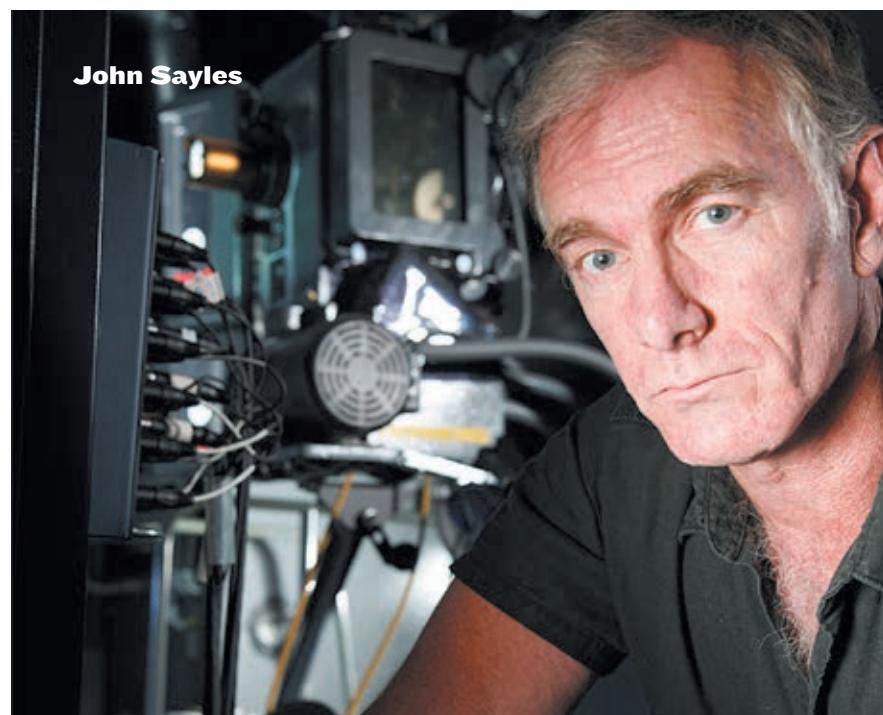
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THINGS TO DO → Books & Talks



John Sayles

RIC KALLAHER

well as R&B singer JusMoni. (*Hugo House*, 7:30 pm, \$25/\$50.) CHRISTOPHER FRIZZELLE

John Sayles: 'Yellow Earth'

The director of the cult classic *Brother from Another Planet*, John Sayles, has, sadly, not made a film since 2013. And his last masterpiece, *Amigo*, was completed a decade ago. But this does not mean Sayles, one of the greatest leftist filmmakers of the 20th century (he is to the US what Ken Loach is to the UK), was doing nothing during this time. This January, Haymarket Books, a socialist publishing house based in Chicago, released Sayles's *Yellow Earth*, a 400-page political fiction outing that's about Native American reservations in Missouri, activism, and petroculture. It's his fifth novel overall. (*Elliott Bay Book Company*, 7 pm, free.) CHARLES MUDEDE

THURS MARCH 5

Jerry Mitchell: 'Race Against Time'

Some of us watched *Mississippi Burning*, Alan Parker's masterpiece about one of the civil rights era's most infamous racist killings, and thought, "Damn, racism sucks." Jerry Mitchell, a journalist at the *Clarion-Ledger*, watched *Mississippi Burning* and then devoted his life and career to cracking decades-old cold cases involving Ku Klux Klan murders across the South. Over the next few years, his work would build the evidence necessary to bring several Klan members to justice and offer some sense of closure to communities ripped apart by racist violence. Using clean, clear

prose shot through with rich, cinematic detail, Mitchell tells the fascinating story of his storied career in *Race Against Time*. (*Elliott Bay Book Company*, 7 pm, free.) RICH SMITH

MORE TheStranger.com/Books

More Picks

Adam Hochschild:
Rebel Cinderella
Third Place Books
Ravenna, Wed March 11,
1 pm, free

Alys Eve Weinbaum:
The Afterlife of Reproductive Slavery
Elliott Bay Book
Company, Fri March 6,
7 pm, free

Colum McCann:
Apeirogon
Third Place Books Lake
Forest Park, Thurs
March 5, 7 pm, free

Justin Farrell:
Interviews from the
Billionaire Wilderness
Town Hall, Wed March 11,
7:30 pm, \$5

MLK Unity Day with
Ijeoma Oluo
Town Hall, Fri Feb 28, 7 pm,
free

News Blues With KUOW
President and General
Manager Caryn Mathes
University Book Store,
Mon March 9, 6 pm, free

Sierra Crane Murdoch:
Yellow Bird
Elliott Bay Book
Company, Tues March 3,
7 pm, free

Sierra Nelson and Kary
Wayson
Elliott Bay Book Company,
Tues March 10, 7 pm, free

Word Lit Zine Presents:
Beginning, Middle,
and End
Hugo House, Thurs Feb 27,
7 pm, \$5

Youth Speaks
Preliminary Round 2
Washington Hall, Sat
Feb 29, 6 pm, \$10

MORE EVENTS TheStranger.com/EverOut

Early Warnings

MIN JIN LEE Benaroya Hall, Tues March 17, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$80

REBECCA SOLNIT Temple De Hirsch Sinai, Tues March 17, 7 pm, \$33/\$38

RICK BAROT Broadway Performance Hall, Thurs March 19, 7:30 pm, \$20-\$80

SOPHIE EGAN WITH TIM EGAN: CONSCIOUS FOOD CHOICES FOR OURSELVES AND THE PLANET Town Hall, Thurs March 19, 7:30 pm, \$5

HIDDEN WILD: SECRETS OF THE EVERGLADES (NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE) Benaroya Hall, March 22-24, \$28-\$50

BERNARDINE EVARISTO: GIRL WOMAN OTHER Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Mon March 23, 7 pm, free



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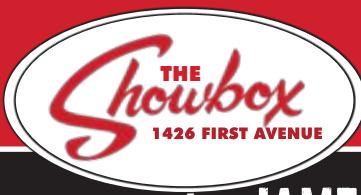
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DABIN <small>WITH AU5, NURKO, LAST HEROES</small> <small>APRIL 5 – 8:00PM</small>	L'IMPÉRATRICE <small>APRIL 14 – 8:30PM</small>	THE LOCUST & NAPALM DEATH <small>WITH THE ACCUSED, NASTIE BAND</small> <small>APRIL 15 – 7:30PM</small>	THE DARKNESS <small>WITH THE DEAD DEAD</small> <small>APRIL 18 – 9:00PM</small>
MIKA <small>APRIL 20 – 8:00PM</small>	POOLSIDE <small>APRIL 26 – 8:00PM</small>	BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB <small>WITH SPORTS TEAM</small> <small>APRIL 30 – 8:30PM</small>	THE DRIVER ERA <small>WITH THE WRECKS</small> <small>MAY 1 – 8:00PM</small>
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DOM DOLLA <small>MARCH 14 – 8:00PM</small>	LUPE FIASCO <small>PRESENTS FOOD & LIQUOR</small> <small>MARCH 15 – 8:00PM</small>	SOB X RBE <small>WITH SHOOTERGANG KONY</small> <small>MARCH 26 – 8:30PM</small>	PEEKABOO <small>WITH TRUTH, ZEKE BEATS, ISOXO</small> <small>MARCH 27 – 9:00PM</small>
TCHAMI <small>WITH 13, CAPOZZI</small> <small>APRIL 4 – 9:00PM</small>	JACOB COLLIER <small>APRIL 15 – 8:00PM</small>	TRITONAL <small>APRIL 17 – 9:00PM</small>	STEVE AOKI <small>WITH TIMMY TRUMPET, GAMMER, MAX STYLER, GLOBAL DAN</small> <small>APRIL 20 – 8:00PM</small>
DANCE GAVIN DANCE <small>WITH ANIMALS AS LEADERS, ISSUES, VEIL OF MAYA, ROYAL CODA</small> <small>APRIL 22 – 6:30PM</small>	MURA MASA <small>WITH DEB NEVER</small> <small>APRIL 23 – 8:00PM</small>	TECH N9NE <small>WITH JELLY ROLL, KING ISO, MAEZ301</small> <small>APRIL 24 – 8:00PM</small>	ALEC BENJAMIN <small>WITH HARRY HUDSON</small> <small>APRIL 25 – 8:00PM</small>
HOT CHELLE RAE <small>APRIL 26 – NEUMOS</small>	IN THIS MOMENT + BLACK VEIL BRIDES <small>WITH DED, RAVEN BLACK</small> <small>MAY 10 – PARAMOUNT THEATRE</small>	LP <small>MAY 13 – PARAMOUNT THEATRE</small>	KRAFTWERK 3-D <small>JUNE 19 – MOORE THEATRE</small>

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Ball of Profusion

Seattle's High Pulp brilliantly juice up funk, R&B, and jazz

BY DAVE SEGAL

One of Seattle's biggest bands personnel-wise is poised to go big in a different way, if current trends continue. With frequent shows around town and a recent live appearance on KEXP, High Pulp are gaining momentum, which should culminate in their March 7 record-release show at Neumos.

High Pulp's multitudinous members interlock with loose-limbed precision to create a nuanced amalgam of funk, jazz-fusion, and R&B. In local terms, you could consider High Pulp to be Eldridge Gravy & the Court Supreme's slightly smaller and more subdued sibling. Their music might be more suitable for the after-party and what seductions you leverage *after* the after-party than the party itself. But High Pulp can rock a dance club, too. Check out "Midnight Bistro"—a sleek, nocturnal electro-funk number that sounds like Mandré and Grover Washington Jr. jamming in a planetarium that serves wine—and the spasmodic, action-scene funk of "Juiced."

Four or five years ago, High Pulp emerged out of informal Friday night jams in the Greenwood basement of drummer Rob Granfelt (who also plays in the excellent neo-trip-hop unit Sunking). The band's core now includes Antoine Martel (synths), Rob Homan (keyboards), Andrew Morrill (alto sax), Victory Nguyen (tenor sax), Scott Rixon (bass), and Gehrig Uhles (guitar). With 2019's *Light Fix* EP, High Pulp added the polished vocals of JusMoni, Shaina Shepherd, and Falon Sierra, who add luster to the R&B ballads' mellow luxuriousness. Their contributions help *Light Fix* exude a deep-shag-carpet seductiveness.

On the flip side of this aesthetic, High Pulp have recently tackled three classics



High Pulp are mighty in size and poised to go big with their latest release.

of spiritual jazz for the *Mutual Attraction Vol. 1* EP. It's the beginning of a series in which the group pays homage to its formative influences. The initial edition features covers of Alice Coltrane, Pharoah Sanders, and Sun Ra pieces. High Pulp handle these heady works with poise, subtly reinterpreting touchstones of black avant-garde expression. Talk about setting a daunting bar for yourself... but High Pulp handle the high-wire act with aplomb.

While jazz's freer end of the spectrum is the music that most bonds High Pulp's members, they also love Miles Davis's *Birth of the Cool* LP and Duke Ellington's big-band material. In addition, they take inspiration

from, among others, Shabazz Palaces, Jonny Greenwood, Flying Lotus, Frank Ocean, Hans Zimmer, and Yes.

High Pulp honed their skills for their forthcoming record over the span of a year-plus residency at the Royal Room (where Granfelt works in social media). Every Wednesday night for a few hours they'd play tunes and improvise, forming the ideas that would become finished songs. "There is a really fervent creative energy in the band," Granfelt said in an e-mail interview. "That allows us to continue to go back to the drawing board, again and again, until we settle on something that everyone can sign off on."

With so many people in High Pulp, it

must make for an interesting and possibly convoluted creative process. Do chance and spontaneity play a role? "It's all spontaneity and chance," Granfelt said. "Songs can come from any angle, at any time. Sometimes things are organic; for example, we may be setting up at rehearsal or a gig, and someone will start messing around, and I'll be like, 'Keep playing that!' and record a voice memo that I'll revisit months later and pitch as an idea to build off of. Other times, one of our members may come to rehearsal with a full idea they had for a tune with multiple sections and we go from there."

"In all cases, we write as a unit. It doesn't matter where the idea begins, but by the end it will have gone through the ears of all of us and will get our cosign. Once everyone agrees that something is done, then it's done. Until then, we keep searching."

After being a strictly instrumental proposition for years, High Pulp decided to bring in singers last year "to push ourselves in a new way. Just to reach for discomfort, a challenge," Granfelt explained. "Collaboration is a real core part of the identity of High Pulp. We view ourselves as a collective. We've played with 20-plus different musicians over the years, either on gigs or in the studio, so it was natural to bring vocalists into the fold. This was an opportunity to play less, to leave more space, and to be super intentional as a writing unit. We all take influence from those Soulquarians releases in the early 2000s, with Erykah Badu, D'Angelo, the Roots, Common... We wanted to see what happened if we took a step in that direction and tried to put ourselves in that headspace." ■

Top Picks

THURS FEB 27

Stanton Moore, David Torkanowsky, James Singleton

JAZZ Stanton Moore is a giant of modern drumming who's been working out of New Orleans since cofounding one of that city's more popular jazz-funk ensembles, Galactic. He is also one of the key OGs in post-jazz rock outfit Garage A Trois, among a wide range of other gigs (including

keeping beats on Street Sweeper Social Club's eponymous debut) and solo endeavors. On this date, he'll be with his trio, which includes bassist James Singleton (Nolatet, Astral Project) and venerable NOLA keysman David Torkanowsky. (*Triple Door*, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$32-\$40.) LEILANI POLK

FEB 27-28

Robyn Hitchcock

ROCK/POP For more than 40 years, Nashville-via-London guitarist/vocalist Robyn Hitchcock has been one of rock's wittiest and wildest surrealists. Starting with the short-lived Soft Boys, Hitchcock

achieved summits of strange and hook-wise psych-rock, especially on the 1980 classic *Underwater Moonlight*. A long career leading the Egyptians and as a solo eccentric ensued, with songs veering from whimsical to sinister to absurd to morbid. Hitchcock has taken the twisted aesthetics of Syd Barrett's "Bike," John Lennon's "I Am the Walrus," and Frank Zappa/Kim Fowley's "Help, I'm a Rock" to shape his own eldritch catalog. *Robyn Hitchcock*, his most recent album, is robust sexagenarian rock that proves the man's lyrical and melodic chops remain exceptionally sharp. (*Fremont Abbey*, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$25.) DAVE SEGAL

FRI FEB 28

Mike Clark, Wil Blades, Skerik

JAZZ As a drummer with Herbie Hancock and the Headhunters, Mike Clark manufactured some of the most complexly funky rhythms of the funkiest decade ever: the 1970s. On albums such as *Thrust*, *Man-Child*, *Survival of the Fittest*, and *Straight from the Gate*, Clark proved himself a key figure in fusion while also laying down many grooves sampled by hip-hop and electronic-music producers: Go straight to Herbie's "Actual Proof" for actual proof. In addition, Clark's sessionography boasts dates with some of jazz's greatest: Joe and Eddie

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Neal Francis



OLIVIA QUINN

Henderson, Chet Baker, Bobby Hutcherson, Wayne Shorter, and many more. Now 73, Clark has made a lot of solid records since his 1970s heyday, such as 1992's *The Funk Stops Here* with Headhunters bassist Paul Jackson and 2010's *Carnival of Soul*. He still packs a vigorous punch behind the kit. (*The Royal Room*, 9 pm, \$20/\$25.) **DAVE SEGAL**

T.S.O.L., the Derelicts, Coffin Break, the Lucky Boys, Fully Crazed, Thee Deception, Kids On Fire, Convictions, the Scoffs

METAL/PUNK Goddamn, y'all, I can almost make my fucking word count just LISTING the bands playing across TWO stages on this big bill!!! El Corazon's stage will feature locals the Lucky Boys, denim-clad punks the Derelicts, and Coffin Break, plus Fully Crazed ("metal tinged skate rock" from Jaks Skate Team/ex-Dayglo Abortions/ex-ShutDown members). The Funhouse stage will feature local punks Thee Deception, fun pop punk from Kids On Fire, melodic punk from the Scoffs, and some Midwestern contemporary metal from Convictions. All are opening for original SoCal punk group True Sounds of Liberty! (T.S.O.L.) Hella bands for a nice price. (*El Corazon*, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$15/\$17.) **MIKE NIPPER**

[untitled] 2

CLASSICAL/OPERA I love the [untitled] series. The concert happens later in the evening (10 p.m.) in the lobby of Benaroya Hall. Some attendees dress more casually for the event, while others dress to the nines because they're the kind of people who do that. The people-watching is excellent, and the music is always cutting-edge and daring. At this iteration, the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and pianist Cristina Valdés will present the work of four contemporary Latin American composers, including world premieres from Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez and Juan David Osorio. (*Benaroya Hall*, 10 pm, \$18.) **RICH SMITH**

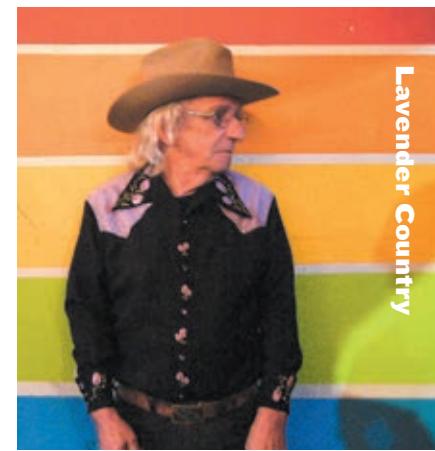
SAT FEB 29

Mike Dillon Band with Brad Houser and Brian Haas

JAZZ You could call what Mike Dillon does "jazz" in the broadest sense of the term—there are grooves, there are rhythms, and there are vibes. But Dillon is a percussive force of nature,

not content to remain within the genre lines. In fact, the longer he's played, the weirder his music has become. He grunts, howls, murmurs in a devilish growl, groans, bellows, and pretty much creates a musical ruckus while playing drums and vibraphone, sometimes both at once, in firm and calculated strokes or full-on crashing and banging modes. The music that issues forth is a punk-caked, metal-shredded, post-jazz explosion with Dillon's own added salt and vinegar. He's a fucking beast, and a must-see, especially as joined by Brian Haas, the forward-thinking leader and keysman of super-heady post-jazz explorers Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey (he also plays with Dillon in Nolatet) and bassist/horn player/New Bohemians founder Brad Houser, also a member of Critter Buggin with Dillon. (*The Royal Room*, 8 pm, \$15.) **LEILANI POLK**

SUN MARCH 1

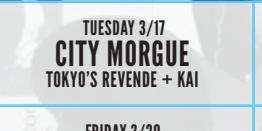
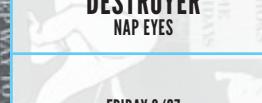
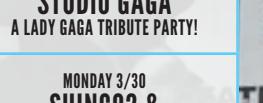
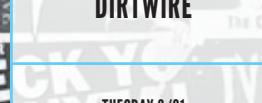
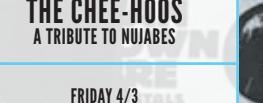
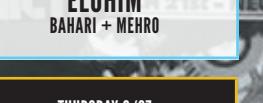


JENNIFER CHAMBERLIN

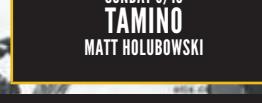
Lavender Country, Ashleigh Flynn & the Riveters

BLUES/COUNTRY/FOLK Lavender Country's Patrick Haggerty is everyone's favorite gay cowboy. This will probably be true for all of time, but it's definitely true right now. Haggerty has had a popular resurgence ever since Lavender Country rereleased their nearly 40-year-old self-titled debut—recognized as the first gay country album ever created—in 2014. Since then, he's been on a roll. Haggerty opened for gay country crooner Orville Peck at his most recent show in Seattle. And Lavender Country's "I Can't Shake the Stranger Out of You" was recently covered by drag star/country singer Trixie Mattel on her latest album. Go see Haggerty whenever you can. You'll leave verklempt. (*Tractor Tavern*, 8 pm, \$10.) **CHASE BURNS**

NEUMOS

 <p>WEDNESDAY 2/26 BIG BITE DREAMDECAY + OLD DARK HOUSE</p>	 <p>THURSDAY 2/27 AMONG AUTHORS ERIN RAE & THE HEARTBEETS + BELGIAN FOG</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 2/28 CHASTITY BELT VERSING + HUGH F</p>
 <p>THURSDAY 3/5 TELEFON TEL AVIV CHASMS</p>	 <p>SATURDAY 3/7 HIGH PULP LIGHT FIX EP RELEASE PARTY</p>	 <p>SUNDAY 3/8 ARMNHMR SECOND SHOW ADDED! LIONE</p>
 <p>WEDNESDAY 3/11 BRENT AMAKER DEATHSQUAD RAZOR CLAM + SMOKER DAD</p>	 <p>THURSDAY 3/12 EVAN GIIA RAFFAELLA</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 3/13 TWIDDLE + ALO</p>
 <p>SUNDAY 3/15 WHITEY MORGAN RED SHAHAN</p>	 <p>TUESDAY 3/17 CITY MORGUE TOKYO'S REVENGE + KAI</p>	 <p>WEDNESDAY 3/18 AVI KAPLAN PAPER WINGS</p>
 <p>THURSDAY 3/19 DESTROYER NAP EYES</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 3/20 Pussy Riot DELI GIRLS</p>	 <p>SATURDAY 3/21 STUDIO GAGA A LADY GAGA TRIBUTE PARTY!</p>
 <p>FRIDAY 3/27 DIRTWIRE</p>	 <p>SUNDAY 3/29 THE DISTRICTS GLOVE</p>	 <p>MONDAY 3/30 SHINGO2 & THE CHEE-HOOS A TRIBUTE TO NUJABES</p>
 <p>TUESDAY 3/31 HOLY FUCK</p>	 <p>WEDNESDAY 4/1 OF MONTREAL LOCATE S, 1</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 4/3 ELOHIM BAHARI + MEHRO</p>

BARBOZA

 <p>FRIDAY 2/28 SHELF NUNNY + WMD KOGANE</p>	 <p>SATURDAY 2/29 HI CRIME LOVELY COLOURS + PAMPA</p>	 <p>TUESDAY 3/3 HIKES CURSE LEAGUE</p>
 <p>THURSDAY 3/5 MARSHALL HALLSTROM DEIFY + IRIS DRIVE</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 3/6 HABIBI WITH SPECIAL GUESTS</p>	 <p>SATURDAY 3/7 SUMMER CANNIBALS SPIRIT AWARD</p>
 <p>TUESDAY 3/10 NEAL FRANCIS FUTURENOT</p>	 <p>FRIDAY 3/13 BLACKBIRD BLACKBIRD LYFE INDOORS + BITTER LIPS</p>	 <p>SATURDAY 3/14 DICK VALENTINE (OF ELECTRIC SIX)</p>
 <p>SUNDAY 3/15 TAMINO MATT HOLUBOWSKI</p>	 <p>TUESDAY 3/17 POLYPLASTIC WITH SPECIAL GUESTS</p>	 <p>WEDNESDAY 3/18 TRANSVIOLET + ARMORS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS</p>

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2/29 . . . Blue Velvet Groove (Funk) . . .	8p-11p FREE
3/3 . . . Trivia Tuesday . . .	7p-10p FREE
3/4 . . . All Stars Karaoke . . .	7p-10p FREE
3/6 . . . Prom Date Mixtape (80s Hits)9p-12a \$10 adv/\$15 day of show
3/7 . . . Red House Band/Joe Cook Blues Band (Blues)6p-10p \$8
3/8 . . . Salsa Night w/ Elere6-830p \$10
3/10 . . . Trivia Tuesday . . .	7p-10p FREE
3/11 . . . All Stars Karaoke . . .	7p-10p FREE
3/13 . . . Rock Steady (Rock/Hits)9p-12a
3/14 . . . 80s v 90s w/ DJ Indica Jones9p-12a \$5

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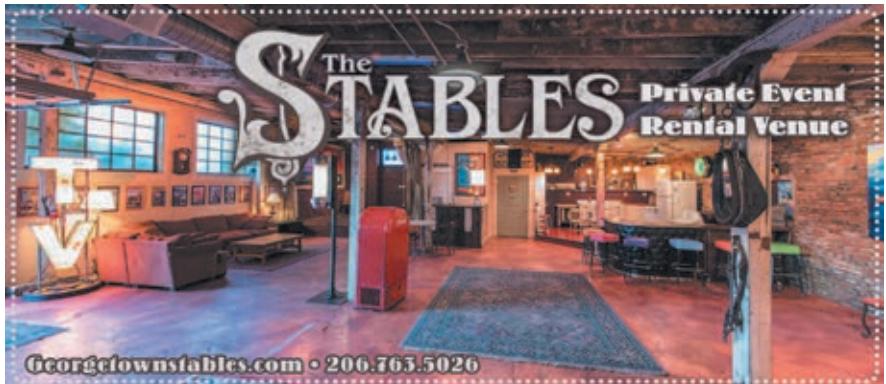
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2/26 WEDNESDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Papooz Fruit Juice 21 & Over	
2/27 THURSDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Violent Jams The National Guard (Record Release), Old Lady Litterbug 21 & Over	
2/28 FRIDAY		<i>Sugarshack Sessions & The Crocodile Present:</i> Kbong (of Stick Figure) @ High Dive Sensi Trails, Perfect By Tomorrow 21 & Over	
2/28 FRIDAY		<i>The Crocodile Presents:</i> Lawrence Special Guests All Ages SOLD OUT	
2/29 SATURDAY		<i>Grieves and The Crocodile Present:</i> Paw Print: A Benefit Concert For Homeward Pet Adoption Center Feat: Grieves @ The Crocodile All Ages	
FEATURED	 Tue 5/12 CASS MCCOMBS / STEVE GUNN @ NEUMOS	 Sun 5/31 GBH	 Wed 6/24 CAROLINE ROSE

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3/7 DRAMA 3/8 AMANDA SHIRES 3/12 DORIAN ELECTRA 3/13 GLENN CANNON AND THE DAMAGE DONE
3/18 FRAZEE FORD 3/19 VERITE 3/20 WYE OAK 3/21 WILD RUMOURS 3/22 LAUREN RUTH WARD 3/23 &
3/24 BUILT TO SPILL 3/25 AJJ 3/28 PETER BJORN AND JOHN 3/29 ALGIERS 3/30 VUNDABAR 3/31 THE
GARDEN 4/2 LOUDERMILK 4/6 MUM 4/7 BEABA DOOBEE 4/8 SAMPA THE GREAT 4/9 POST ANIMAL

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Thundercat

ROCK/POP The music of Los Angeles-based bassist/composer Stephen Lee Bruner (aka Thundercat) is transcendent. And that's a fact. His distinct blend of jazz, soul, and funk is fresh and cosmic while also throwing back to the likes of Sun Ra and Miles Davis. Having worked extensively with Flying Lotus, Kamasi Washington, Kendrick Lamar on *To Pimp a Butterfly* (for which Lamar won a Grammy for best rap/sung performance), Erykah Badu, and dozens of other contemporary musicians, Thundercat is as influential as he is technically accomplished. His most recent release, 2017's *Drunk*, is astonishing in its range and intimacy—light some incense and float to "Lava Lamp." (*The Showbox*, 8 pm, all ages, \$30/\$35.) JASMYNE KEIMIG

MON MARCH 2



Lower Dens, Ami Dang

ROCK/POP An alt-pop band with heavy post-punk feels and a bit of woozy synthy experimentation, Lower Dens had their come-up with 2010 debut *Twin-Hand Movement* and a strong sophomore follow-up, *Nootropics*, a few years later. It's all driven by the creative, socially aware mind and distinctively higher-toned vocal qualities of singer-songwriter Jana Hunter. The group is on tour behind 2019 fourth LP *The Competition*, which, according to their Bandcamp page, deals with "modern capitalism and its psychotic effects" in 11 songs that "express an epiphany: you need radical and unquestioning compassion for yourself if you're to reimagine what society could be." Looking for something less political? Take a listen to their dark and slinky reading of old Hall & Oates chestnut "Maneater." (*The Showbox*, 8 pm, all ages, \$22/\$25.) DAVE SEGAL

TUES MARCH 3

The Music of Cream

ROCK/POP The original lineup playing the music of Cream featured relations of that band's original members: Kofi Baker (son of Ginger Baker) on drums and vocals, Malcolm Bruce (Jack Bruce's son) on bass, and Will Johns (Eric Clapton's nephew and son of Zeppelin/Stones engineer Andy Johns) on guitar and vocals. On this 2020 iteration, it's only Baker and Johns (there was some inner-band drama that involved Bruce being booted), joined by musicians Sean McNabb and Chris Shutters. They're still playing Cream tunes—on this go-round, 1967's *Disraeli Gears*

from start ("Strange Brew") to finish ("Mother's Lament")—and those will be followed by some Clapton classics. (*The Triple Door*, 7:30 pm, all ages.) LEILANI POLK

WED MARCH 4



Best Coast, Mannequin Pussy

ROCK/POP Hardcore lifelong Seattleites, take note: Best Coast are from Southern California and unabashedly proud of that fact! If you can manage to get past this, you'll soon find appreciation for a decade-deep catalog of songs that includes catchy, Beach Boys-inspired surf-rock bops as well as moody, Beach Boys-inspired depressing surf-rock anthems. They'll be joined tonight by Mannequin Pussy, a punk band from Philadelphia that earned praise for their 2019 album *Patience*. (*The Showbox*, 8 pm, all ages, \$22/\$25.) BLAIR STENVICK

THURS MARCH 5

Bill Frisell

JAZZ What more can master guitarist Bill Frisell do? Over the last 42 years, he's finessed his way through many permutations of jazz, rock (including an album of John Lennon songs), Americana, folk, and even noise. For his new album, *HARMONY* (Frisell's first for Blue Note), the revered Bainbridge Island musician explores vocal-based songwriting, with the gorgeous voice of Petra Haden (that dog, the Decemberists, etc.) augmenting his spectral ballads. Featuring several covers of chestnuts by Pete Seeger, Billy Strayhorn, Stephen Foster, and others, *HARMONY* may be a conservative move, but you can't accuse Frisell of stagnating. And within the record's parameters, he and his band (including guitarist/bassist Luke Bergman and cellist Hank Roberts) evoke an almost *Twin Peaks*-like vibe, a sheer reveling in hushed melodic beauty for its own sake. (*Moore Theatre*, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$39-\$61.) DAVE SEGAL

Refused, METZ, Youth Code

METAL/PUNK As a 1980s hardcore kid, I never really sussed Refused; they ascended to relevance as a '90s stock Victory label band into a group boasting they were "the shape of punk to come." However, by 1998, had you been listening, their "shape" had come and gone, as they owed everything to acts like Fugazi, Helmet, and Rorschach. Still, they're a top group for late hardcore 1990s/early aughties kids. Now, two decades after *The Shape of Punk to Come*, they've evolved into a good, contemporary, heavy, hook-filled rock band just like many '80s-era hardcore bands did by '87, and I'm inclined to reckon 2019's *War Music* LP is their *October File*. (*The Showbox*, 8:30 pm, all ages, \$30/\$35.) MIKE NIPPER

HIGHLINE

WEEKLY ON MONDAYS: FUCK YEAH BINGO 7-9PM

Friday, February 28

THOR
Solicitor
Greyhawk, Point Zero
9PM \$13-\$16

Tuesday, March 3

DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR
Pound, 2Klix
8PM \$13-\$16

Saturday, March 7

QUEENS OF NOISE FESTIVAL
Alice Bag, Itchy Kitty, Klondike Kate, Madame Damnable, Nox Novacula, Having Issues, Post Rapture Party Heels, Mallory, Matriarch, 6PM \$25-\$30

Sunday, March 8

CURL UP AND DIE
Heiress, Blightmaker
8PM \$15-\$18

Thursday, March 12

PATHOGENS
Soot, To End It All, Pink Void
9PM \$10-\$13

Friday, March 20

VASTUM
Hissing, Cystic
9PM \$14-\$17

Saturday, March 21

WAX LEAD
Vio/ator, Hallows
2 Libras
8PM \$15-\$17

Friday, March 27

SYNTH CITY PRESENTS: DROID BISHOP
Let Em Rot, Starfarer
8PM \$15-\$18

Wednesday, April 8

SOUND GIG PRESENTS: PEARS
Single Mothers
9PM \$14-\$16

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Mar 7 | 8:00pm
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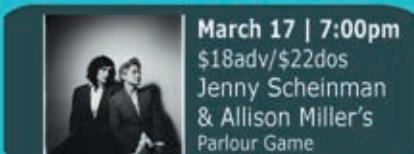
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HIGHLIGHTS



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\$18adv/\$22dos
Jenny Scheinman & Alison Miller's Parlour Game



March 22 | 7:00pm
The Crocodile Presents:
Tashi Dorji & Aaron Turner
\$15adv/\$17dos



March 27 | 8:30pm
Planet Fly
Reposado
\$8adv/\$12dos



April 1 | 8:30pm
KNKX Presents
Piano Starts Here:
The Music of Keith Jarrett
\$8adv/\$12dos



More Shows!!

- 2.28 Mike Clark//Wil Blades//Skerik
- 3.4 Jonathan Barber & Vision Ahead
- 3.6 Sam Boshnack Quintet w/ Adriana Giordano & Marina Albero
- 3.16 Kyle Smith//Perfect By Tomorrow
- 3.25 Collier & Seales Duo w/ Valerie Rosa
- 3.26 Celebrate Women! w/ The Red Rose Combo
- 3.28 Comedy Night: Steve Hofstetter
- 4.2 Saint Ophelia//Our Dead Fathers The Vincent Gates Band
- 4.12 Eliza Gilkyson
- 4.13 Jess Jocoy//Lowe Cellar//Maddy Smith

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ZAN FISKUM
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Thursday 3/19
HIGH ENERGY SOUL ROCK
ROYAL JELLY JIVE

SWAY WILD
8PM \$15/\$17

Saturday 3/21
91.3 KBCS PRESENTS
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RAAGINDER
9PM \$17/\$20

Thursday 3/26
HEAVY HEARTED FOLK ROCK
MICHIGAN RATTLES

FERRIS & SYLVESTER
DEAD LEE
8PM \$15/\$20

Tuesday 3/31
KEXP PRESENTS
TORRES

ARIANA & THE ROSE

8PM \$15/\$18

Friday 2/28
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THE DUSTY 45'S

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8PM \$12/\$15

Sunday 3/1
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LAVENDER COUNTRY

ASHLEIGH FLYNN & THE RIVETERS

8PM \$10

Wednesday 3/11
NASHVILLE SINGER/SONGWRITER
CHRIS RENZEMA

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Thursday 3/12
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Friday 3/13
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ACID TONGUE

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UP & COMING
2/27 ELVIS BATCHILD, 3/2 WHITNEY MONGÉ, 3/5 DEN TAPES, 3/6 THE YES MASTERS, 3/7 PURPLE MANE, 3/14 MASSEY FERGUSON, 3/15 KAREN LOVELY, 3/24 JENNY DON'T & THE SPURS, 3/25 MRS. HENRY, 3/27 THE BLUE STONES

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FEATURED EVENTS



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DJ NU-MARK
Pressha, DJ Indica Jones



2.29 Saturday (Dance Party)
SADE VS BADU
A NIGHT OF BULLETPROOF SOUL AND OTHER INSPIRED CLASSICS
feat. DJ Mr. E & Cutso



3.5 Thursday (Electronic)
TÉLEPOP MUSIK
plus DJ Kid Hops (KEXP)



3.6 Friday (Folk / Americana)
POLECAT (FAREWELL SHOW!)
w/ members of The Warren G. Hardings
Trad Disco afterparty w/ DJ Boombox Kid

UPCOMING EVENTS

3.7 JAI HO! HOLI 3.12 THE GOLDEN ROAD FEAT SCOTT LAW 3.14 CLINTON FEARON & BOOGIE BROWN BAND 3.15 SKERIK BAND 3.18 UNSINKABLE HEAVIES + DJ LOGIC + EDDIE ROBERTS 3.19 MR BILL + ILL GATES 3.21 AQUEOUS & CYTRUS 3.27 MARK FARINA 3.29 LEILANI WOLFGRAMM 3.31 FASHAWN 4.2 HORSESHOES & HAND GRENADES 4.3 EKOLU 4.5 HAVOC OF MOBB DEEP 4.8 SAM BUSH BAND WITH THE TRAVELIN' MCCOURYS 4.9 BE SVENDSEN 4.10 MICKEY AVALON 4.11 GARAJ MAHAL 4.17 BUMPIN UGLIES 4.18 ELDREDGE GRAYVY & LDW 4.19 ANDRE NICKATINA 4.20 DEVIN THE DUDE 4.24 NIGHTMARES ON WAX (DJ SET) 4.25 SEUN KUTI 4.26 CHRIS WEBBY 4.28 (((O))) 4.30 DAKH DAUGHTERS 5.1 PERPETUAL GROOVE 5.2 KYLE HOLLINGSWORTH BAND 5.7 THE WAILERS 5.14 DELLA MAE 5.15 FLOWMOTION 5.16 PHUTUREPRIMITIVE 5.29 GONDWANA

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The Filthy Traitors

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Sensi Trails, Perfect By Tomorrow

2.29 Saturday (Indie/Pop)

DATENITE

Heather Edgley

Sandi Fernandez, Halley Greg

3.3 Tuesday (Electro-Soul / Pop)

NEOMA

Avestra, Spence Hood

3.4 Wednesday (Jazz)

THE THURSDAY COLLECTIVE
Benchmark

3.6 Friday (Queen + Police Tributes)

QUEEN MOTHER

with SOS

3.7 Saturday (Indie / Rock)

BRASS MONKEYS

(Beastie Boys Tribute)

Asterhouse (Live video shoot!)

3.8 Sunday (Indie / Rock)

PALACE HOTEL

Nolan Garrett, Claire Michelle

3.10 Tuesday (Soul / R&B)

ADRIAN MARCEL

with guest TJ Upshaw

3.11 Wednesday (Pop / Indie)

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with guests Glass Beaches, + Sam Parker Trio

3.13 Friday (Acid Jazz / Experimental)

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THINGS TO DO → Music

Tool



TRAVIS SHINN

Télépopmusik, DJ Kid Hops

ELECTRONIC Télépopmusik is a French electronic duo that released their first album, *Genetic World*, in 2001. That said, I want to turn to the ghost of the jazz goddess Billie Holiday. She appears in a number of pop songs. One is Little Dragon's "Twice," and another is Erykah Badu's "On & On." Yet another is Telepopmusik's exquisitely beautiful and existential "Breathe," which is on that first album and was made famous by a Mitsubishi car commercial. "Another day, just breathe." That is the most you can hope for, my friend. (*Nectar*, 8 pm, \$22.) **CHARLES MUDEDE**

FRI MARCH 6

Ásgeir

ROCK/POP Icelandic musician Ásgeir Trausti Einarsson crafts elegant folk music with restrained electronic elements, setting his tender, sweet, ethereal vocals against it. I'm reminded of the very first Bon Iver album, when Justin Vernon was recording all by himself in an isolated cabin in Wisconsin, and you could hear it in the songs. Ásgeir's music has a similar feel, though it's somehow brighter, lusher, and sexier, while still maintaining a subdued tone. His 2020 third album, *Bury the Moon*, is an early contender on my Best of 2020 list. (*Neptune Theatre*, 8 pm, all ages, \$19.) **LEILANI POLK**

Shopping

METAL/PUNK Who says the Seattle Sound isn't inspiring musicians from around the world anymore? Shopping are a British trio that rippled out from London's queercore scene (they have since relocated to Glasgow) and take a strong dose of inspiration from our Northwest feminist punk riot-grrl sound. They wrote "Initiative"—the lead single off their new album, *All or Nothing*—in an Emerald City basement. The angular, propulsive guitar and crisp shout-sung lyrics intentionally conjure up the ghosts of Gang of Four while tackling political subjects (like the UK's ubiquitous CCTV cameras) more discreetly than their avowedly communist predecessors. But if the personal is political, then Shopping's identity politics more than make up for the lack of Marxist

dogma. As lead guitarist Rachel Aggs said in an interview with TIDAL, "I feel really proud to be on stage and be queer, a person of color, and a female-identifying person that doesn't necessarily present in a conventional way." (*Sunset Tavern*, 9 pm, \$13.) **GREG SCRUGGS**

SAT MARCH 7

Queens of Noise Punk Festival

METAL/PUNK Alice Bag is a significant name in punk rock; she was the lead singer and cofounder of first-wave punk band the Bags, which came out of LA in the 1970s and was fronted by two women in a scene that was heavily male-dominated. She's also a significant feminist icon who's been a strident voice against injustice. In addition to being an educator, author (she has two books, *Violence Girl: East L.A. Rage to Hollywood Stage: A Chicana Punk Story* and *Pipe Bomb for the Soul*), and activist, she's still churning out music speaking to current issues (see last year's "No Gifts for Nazis"). She is appropriately headlining the Queens of Noise "female, femme, nonbinary" punk festival, which will also feature sets by nine other punk-minded lady-repped Washington-area bands spread over two stages: Itchy Kitty, Klondike Kate, Madame Damnable, Nox Novacula, Having Issues, Post Rapture Party, the Heels, Mallory, and Matriarch. Proceeds benefit Peoria Home, which provides sanctuary and support for survivors of sex trafficking and prostitution. (*Highline*, 6 pm, \$25/\$30.) **LEILANI POLK**

SUN MARCH 8

Fennesz, Britton Powell, Mamiffer

ELECTRONIC A quarter century on, Austrian guitarist/laptop musician Christian Fennesz is still creating ambient music of stoic grandeur and subliminal beauty. He debuted on record with 1995's *Instrument* EP, four tracks of beatless industrial *klang* in the vein of early Cluster, and on subsequent early Mego releases he laced static and glitch into poignant melodies, peaking on 2001's *Endless Summer*. Fennesz has spent the last two decades refining his sound into less abrasive realms while collaborating with esteemed artists such as Ryuichi Sakamoto, David Sylvian, Jim

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MON/MARCH 2 • 7:30PM tommy castro & the painkillers

TUE/MARCH 3 • 7:30PM the music of cream - disraeli gears tour

WED/MARCH 4 • 7:30PM lunasa

THU/MARCH 5 • 7:30PM téada

FRI/MARCH 6 • 8PM colin james

MON/MARCH 9 & TUE/MARCH 10 • 7:30PM KNIX PRESENTS hiromi

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THINGS TO DO → Music

O'Rourke, and King Midas Sound. With his latest album, last year's *Agora*, Fennesz has produced his most eventful work in years—ambient music of thrilling cinematic drama. Don't miss this rare Seattle appearance by a master. (*Columbia City Theater*, 8 pm, \$20.) **DAVE SEGAL**

MON MARCH 9

The Strokes, Alvvays

ROCK/POP I recently learned about the "20-year rule" used by clothing sellers to determine whether or not they can label an item as "vintage." And I think the Strokes—at least as they exist in popular imagination as young disaffected indie dudes—are rapidly approaching vintage status, thus picking up a new layer of cool. I, for one, wouldn't mind a small resurgence of catchy-garage-meets-pop-meets-'70s-swagger. Though the band has gotten distracted with their own side projects over the past few years, they've announced a new album, *The New Abnormal*. At a Bernie Sanders rally in New Hampshire, no less. I think it's high time for zoomers to discover "The Modern Age." (*WaMu Theater*, 7 pm.) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

TUES MARCH 10

Neal Francis

ROCK/POP Chicago-based keys-playing musician Neal Francis churns out music that's deeply derivative of the 1970s, a combination of the Band at their rootsy-grooviest, the boogie-woogie side of Dr. John, and Billy Preston's upbeat soulfulness. Francis adds a dash of Chicago blues and R&B to the sonic stew, some wah-wah guitar and claved-out funkiness, and pits his mild, tuneful vocals against it all. It grooves, it rolls, it saunters, it strolls, and it is inherently likable and head-bobbable. His fantastic 2019 outing, *Changes*, was produced by analog maestro Sergio Rios (Orgone, Monophonics), and Francis lands in town in support. (*Barboza*, 8 pm, \$13/\$16.) **LEILANI POLK**



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Young M.A.

HIP-HOP/RAP Young M.A. burst onto the scene in 2016 with her song "OOOUUU." Full of boasts, bravado, and queer desire, the New York rapper seemingly bypassed rap's assumed male audience to speak directly to queer/women listeners. And it worked. The song received hundreds of millions of streams, propelling her career forward as one of the few openly gay rappers in hip-hop

at the moment. Her most recent record, *Herstory in the Making*, solidified her talents as a rapper with broad appeal in cuts like "She Like I'm Like" and "BIG." Young M.A. is even an accomplished entrepreneur, recently releasing a strap-on starter kit—you can't say she doesn't care! (*Neumos*, 8 pm, all ages, \$23/\$25.) **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

WED MARCH 11

Byron Westbrook, N Chambers

EXPERIMENTAL/NOISE In the crowded field of drone-based ambient composers, Los Angeles's Byron Westbrook stands as one of the most rigorous and interesting. One long-form piece he did, *Threshold Variations*, manifested, in his words, an "immersive environment" in which drones and field recordings wax and wane like aural mirages, inducing sublime dream states. For this gig, Westbrook will perform *Surface Variants*, an extended composition using analog and digital synths, field recordings, and tape manipulations to examine the concept of the "sonic afterimage." The excerpt I heard contains abrupt transitions and episodes ranging from quiet animal sounds to corrugated noise bursts. Seattle's N Chambers is returning to the live fray after months of cancer treatments. He remains, as I've been yelling at you for years, one of America's most engrossing synth composers. Hit panabrite.bandcamp.com for hours of sonic enlightenment. (*Chapel Performance Space*, 8 pm, all ages, \$5-\$15.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Patti Smith

ROCK/POP The grande dame of arty punk, the sorcerer of the cover song (see: "Gloria," "So You Want to Be a Rock 'n' Roll Star," "Gimme Shelter," "5-4-3-2-1"), a mythologizing poet of the libido and liberation, an eloquent advocate for leftist causes, one of the most highly evolved androgynes ever to subvert gender stereotypes, creator of one of the greatest debut albums in rock history (1975's *Horses*)—Patti Smith is all of these... and a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee. But don't hold that against her. The first four Patti LPs are where the most inspirational action is, but she has gems scattered throughout the rest of her work and her voice has aged shockingly well. (*Paramount Theatre*, 8 pm, all ages, \$41-\$66.) **DAVE SEGAL**

Tool

METAL/PUNK The 13-year wait for *Fear Inoculum*, the latest album by slithery quartet Tool, seemed borderline excessive—an impious gestation period that promised either an abomination or a glorious new evolutionary stage for heavy-lidded prog-metal. The truth lies somewhere in the middle. The album's 10 tracks stay the course with unusual time signatures, shuddersome production techniques, and touches of sly humor. At the same time, the canvas Tool is using feels much bigger, as they let musical ideas stretch out and grow and allow for grooves that are easier to sink into and get comfortable within. At least until the knives come out. While this Portland show was originally one of only a few West Coast dates on the tour, the band has recently added more shows. So if Portland is too far to drive on a Wednesday night, you can get tickets to the newly announced May 29 show at the Tacoma Dome (on sale February 28). (*Moda Center, Portland*, 7:30 pm, \$450.) **ROBERT HAM**

MORE TheStranger.com/Music

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER & BOURBON BAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 SHOWBOX PRESENTS JASIAH + \$NOT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 MONQUI PRESENTS HOLLOW COVES HARRISON STORM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29 DEEP ENERGY ORCHESTRA CD RELEASE CONCERT

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 COSMOZOA MAKING OF THE MIND

MONDAY, MARCH 2 STG PRESENTS LITTLE JESUS LOS WALTERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 3 CHBP PRESENTS ZACK VILLERIE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 COMO EL AIRE AN EVENING OF FLAMENCO FEATURING SAVANNAH FUENTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 5 CHBP PRESENTS FRANCES QUINLAN MARY LATIMORE

FRIDAY, MARCH 6 IT'S A TRAPP PRESENTS RHINESTONE THE VOTE AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE & VOTER REGISTRATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 EARSHOT JAZZ PRESENTS TED POOR

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 FENNESZ BRITTON POWELL / MAMIFFER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 LAUREN SANDERSON

UPCOMING SHOWS

THURSDAY, MARCH 12 AFTON SHOWS PRESENTS FRIDAY, MARCH 13 GIVE, LOVE, LAUGH: A CHARITY COMEDY SHOW

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 BAD POETRY NIGHT

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 HIP REPLACEMENTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 17 UMI

MARCH 19-21, 26-28 DISNEY AFTER DARK

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 FLORA CASH

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 RAHALE B

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 CAMERON ESPOSITO

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THINGS TO DO → Music

More Picks

- Celebrate Asia Benaroya Hall, Sun March 8, 4 pm, \$33-\$100
- Chastity Belt, Loose Tooth Neumos, Fri Feb 28, 8 pm, \$20
- Little Jesus, Los Walters Columbia City Theater, Mon March 2, 8 pm, all ages, \$25
- The Crocodile Presents: Bambara, Guests Sunset Tavern, Tues March 3, 9 pm, \$13
- Marc E. Bassy, Gianni & Kyle The Showbox, Tues March 10, 8 pm, all ages, \$25/\$30
- Shelf Nunny, WMD Barboza, Fri Feb 28, 7 pm, \$8/\$10
- Telefon Tel Aviv Neumos, Thurs March 5, 8 pm, \$22/\$27
- Uniform, The Body, Dreamdecay Laser Dome at Pacific Science Center, Tues March 3, 7:30 pm, all ages, \$18/\$20
- Vote with Vera ft. Dude York, Lisa Prank, Jo Passed, and More! Vera Project, Fri March 6, 7 pm, all ages, \$5/\$10
- William Duvall of Alice in Chains Triple Door, Sat Feb 29, 8 pm, \$23/\$25

[MORE EVENTS](#) ▶ TheStranger.com/EverOut

Early Warnings

- LUPE FIASCO PRESENTS FOOD & LIQUOR Showbox Soda, Sun March 15, 8 pm, \$35/\$40
- WILCO Paramount Theatre, March 18-19, 7:30 pm, \$40-\$75
- ACTION BRONSON, MAYHEM LAUREN Neptune Theatre, Tues April 7, 8 pm, \$35
- ORVILLE PECK, THE RUEN BROTHERS The Showbox, Tues April 7, 8 pm, \$25/\$28
- CARLY RAE JEPSEN Moore Theatre, Tues April 14, 8 pm, \$32-\$275
- MIKA The Showbox, Mon April 20, 8 pm, \$40/\$45
- RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE, RUN THE JEWELS Tacoma Dome, Tues April 28, 8 pm, \$210-\$704+
- JENS LEKMAN Neumos, Tues May 5, 7 pm, \$25
- KAYTRANADA Showbox Soda, Fri May 8, 9 pm, \$30/\$35
- JUSTIN BIEBER, KEHLANI, JADEN SMITH CenturyLink Field, Thurs May 14, 7 pm, \$48-\$1600
- BRIGHT EYES, LAVENDER DIAMOND Temple Theater, Sat May 16, 8 pm, \$43
- JAMES TAYLOR & HIS ALL-STAR BAND, JACKSON BROWNE Tacoma Dome, Sun May 24, 7:30 pm, \$63-\$129
- HALSEY, CHVRCHES, OMAR APOLLO White River Amphitheatre, Tues June 2, 7 pm, \$24-\$130+
- PURITY RING Paramount Theatre, Tues June 2, 8 pm, \$27/\$32
- HALL & OATES, SQUEEZE, KT TUNSTALL White River Amphitheatre, Fri June 5, 7 pm, \$24-\$350+
- BON JOVI, BRYAN ADAMS Tacoma Dome, Wed June 10, 7:30 pm, \$99-\$755+
- STEPHEN MALKMUS, QAIS ESSAR & THE MAGIK CARPET The Showbox, Sat June 27, 9 pm, \$30/\$35
- WEEN Marymoor Park, Fri July 3, 7 pm, \$50/\$55
- ARCHERS OF LOAF The Showbox, Sat July 11, 9 pm, \$25/\$28
- PRIMUS, WOLFMOTHER, BATTLES Marymoor Park, Fri July 24, 6 pm, \$50/\$55
- THE DECEMBERISTS Paramount Theatre, Wed July 29, 8 pm, \$45/\$46
- JANET JACKSON Tacoma Dome, Sun Aug 23, 8 pm, \$59-\$499
- THING 2020 Fort Worden State Park, Aug 28-30

THINGS TO DO → Music

Thurs 2/27

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Night Hikes, some surprises, 8 pm, \$10

BELLCITY YACHT CLUB IWishWasAPunkBand, Micah Subar, Kathleen Murray, 8 pm, \$8

CENTRAL SALOON Gus Clark & The Least of His Problems, 8 pm, \$8

CHA CHA LOUNGE Hip Punk Rock Hop Hootennany, 9:15 pm, free

CHOP SUEY L80 Manica, Andromeda's Excrement, 8 pm, \$10

• COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Jasiah and Snöt, Nascar Aloe, 8 pm, \$20/\$23

CONOR BYRNE Great American Trainwreck, The Resolectrics, Taylor Kingman, 8 pm, \$8

CROCODILE Violent Jams, The National Guard, Old Lady Litterbug, 7 pm, \$10/\$12

• THE CROCODILE BACK BAR No Swoon, Jupiter Sprites, 9:30 pm, \$5

THE FUNHOUSE Onoff, 8 pm, \$7/\$8

KONA KITCHEN One Night Choir: "Wrecking Ball" by Miley Cyrus, 7 pm, free

★ NECTAR Big Brass Extravaganza: Skablings, Ten Man Brass Band, The Highsteppers, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

• NEPTUNE THEATRE moe., 8 pm, \$24/\$29

NEUMOS Among Authors, Erin Rae & the Heartbeats, Belgian Fog, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

• PARAGON Paragon Live Presents Dain Weisner, 9pm, free

SEA MONSTER LOUNGE Return of DeadGrass, 8 pm

THE SHOWBOX DROELOE, 8:30 pm, \$20/\$25

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Batbox, Roxxy LeBeau, Lost In The Tracks, 7 pm, \$8

• SPANISH BALLROOM Dr. Jop Funk Shop, 6 pm, \$5

SUNSET TAVERN Scott Clay, Nick Mardon, Left Hand Smoke, 7:30 pm, \$10

TIM'S TAVERN Secret Caves, Lyfe Indoors, A Raven Renaissance, 9 pm, \$7

TRACTOR TAVERN Elvis Batchild, Forest Ray, Colorworks, 8 pm, \$10

VERMILLION Otis Julius, Shubzilla & Bill Beats, KingDow, Terry Monstrosity, 8 pm, \$6

CLASSICAL/OPERA

BENAROYA HALL Mozart Concerto for Two Pianos, \$24-\$134

• BRECHEMIN AUDITORIUM Brechemin Piano Series, 7:30 pm, free

DJ/DANCE

LO-FI Squadronnb Volume 4, 9 pm

Q NIGHTCLUB Field Trip 109: Eli Brown, 9 pm, \$12

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Regina Belle

THE ROYAL ROOM Seattle Meets Tokyo: Kevin McHugh, 7:30 pm, \$12

Fri 2/28

LIVE MUSIC

AMBER A 'Soul Cafe' Experience with SistasRockTheArts, 7 pm, \$10

★ BARBOZA Shelf Nunny, WMD, 7 pm, \$8/\$10

BELLCITY YACHT CLUB Leeni, FighterX, 9 pm, \$10/\$12

• CAFE RACER Graz, Yufi, Skybox, DJ Headwound, 8 pm, \$5

CENTRAL SALOON Convent Bonfires, Guests, 8 pm, \$8

CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE Eyelids, Zebra Hunt, The Yes Masters, 9 pm, \$10/\$13

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Hollow Coves, Harrison Storm, 8 pm, \$15/\$18

CONOR BYRNE Tellers, Sam Cobra, Hel Mary, 9 pm, \$8

THE COTTAGE Live Music Robbie Christmas, 7 pm, free

• CROCODILE Lawrence, 8 pm, sold out

HARD ROCK CAFE RUST, Fallen Kings, Guests, 9 pm, \$10/\$12

HIGHLINE Thor, Solicitor, Greyhawk, Point Zero, 9 pm, \$13/\$16

• HOLLOW EARTH RADIO Sleepsnt, Plum, Public Pool, 7 pm, \$8-\$15

• KAME HOUSE Pod Blotz, Bloom Offering, DJ Opalescent, Fake Trade, 8 pm, \$8-\$15

THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE Voycheck, Sheenek, Wyoming Young and Strong, Power Skeleton, 8 pm, \$7

BELLCTOWN YACHT CLUB No Win, On Drugs, Jar, Luke Hogfoss, 8:30 pm, \$10/\$12

CAFE RACER Leap Day Revue, 8:30 pm, free

• CENTRAL SALOON Black Plastic Clouds, ONOFF, Crooked Looks, 8 pm, \$10

CLEARWATER CASINO The Carpenters Remembered, 8 pm, \$29-\$39

CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE Benefit for Seattle Children's Cancer Research with GIVE, Chimestone, Gunn, 9 pm, \$12/\$15

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Deep Energy Orchestra CD Release Concert, 8 pm, \$17

CONOR BYRNE AIDNW Benefit with Young-Chhaylee and Friends, 9 pm, \$8/\$10

• PARAGON Paragon Live Presents Ruthie Craft, 9 pm, free

PARLIAMENT TAVERN DEAL - Performing Music of the Grateful Dead, 8:30 pm, \$8

RENDEZVOUS Pi Jacobs, Diamond Wolf, Darren Loucas, 9:30 pm, \$10

THE ROYAL ROOM School of Rock West Seattle Adult Program Performs Dazed and Confused, 5 pm, \$12/\$15

• SHOWBOX SODO Falling In Reverse, Escape the Fate, The Word Alive, 7 pm, \$30/\$35

• THE SHOWBOX Beats Antigue, David Starfire, 9 pm, \$40/\$45

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB The Adarna Music Video Release with Furniture Girls!, 8 pm, \$8/\$10

SLIM'S LAST CHANCE CHILI SHACK AND WATERING HOLE Skularoid: Garden Chat, Ubuludü, The Josephine Chopper, 9 pm, \$8

• SPANISH BALLROOM Donavan Frankenreiter - The Record Player Tour, 7 pm, \$25/\$30

SUNSET TAVERN Jupe Jupe, Select Level, Blue Glass, 9 pm, \$10

TONY V'S GARAGE Damn the Flood, Counterproductive, Brush the Apes, 8 pm, \$10

HIGH DIVE LoveFest ft. DATENITE, Heather Edgley, Sandi Fernandez, Black Ends, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

• THE FUNHOUSE All Hype, Sunstrokes, Ledger, 8 pm, \$7/\$15

HARD ROCK CAFE Pushing Midnight with Restless Vocal Band, 9 pm, \$10/\$15

THE SWALLOW GULP!, 10 pm, free

TIMBRE ROOM JK POP!, 10 pm, \$8

JAZZ

JAZZ ALLEY Regina Belle

★ WING LUKE MUSEUM Provinces by Chris Icasiano with Brenda Xu and Nic Masangkay, 8 pm, \$0-\$20

KIRKLAND PERFORMANCE CENTER Siamak Shirazi & Babak Amini Live in Concert, 7:30 pm, \$45-\$60

THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE Skelerat, Rat King, Ghostblood, 8 pm, \$7

• NEPTUNE THEATRE Jeffrey Silverstein, Ancient Forest, Cat Positive, Surething 8 pm, \$7-\$15

JAZZBONES Wild Rumours-A Fleetwood Mac Experience, 9 pm, \$15

KATE'S PUB Jim, Jim, & Pete, 9 pm, free

KIRKLAND PERFORMANCE CENTER Siamak Shirazi & Babak Amini Live in Concert, 7:30 pm, \$45-\$60

• NEPTUNE THEATRE Echosmith, 8 pm, \$25/\$30

SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Randy Oxford Band, 6 pm

• THE SHOWBOX American Nightmare, 8 pm, \$23/\$25

SPANISH BALLROOM Tommy Castro and The Painkillers, \$30

SUNSET TAVERN The High Seasgrass, The Mighty Dreadful, Outhouse Confessional, 7:30 pm, \$10

TIM'S TAVERN Dojos, the band lele, Comeback Man, 7 pm

• TOWN HALL Global Rhythms: Marc Ribot and Haram, 7:30 pm, \$0-\$20

CLASSICAL/OPERA

BENAROYA HALL Seattle Youth Symphony Presents "Dances of the Americas", 3 pm, \$16-\$54

• BENAROYA HALL Violins of Hope, 5:30 pm, \$30-\$55

BRECHEMIN AUDITORIUM Fantasies, Folk, and Fairy Tales, 4 pm, free

PRIVATE HOME Crescendo Concert with Amy Schwartz Moretti, 4:30 pm

QUEEN ANNE CHRISTIAN CHURCH Wind Power

• TOWN HALL Seattle Festival Orchestra: Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, 2 pm, \$18.00

• TOWN HALL Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto (Sunday General Concert), 2 pm, \$5-\$10

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CLASSICAL/OPERA

MARCH 3

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Aubrey Logan vocals and trombone

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21 AND OVER

THE CHATS
MEAN JEANS & THICK
TUE APR 14
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR W/PROPER ID

THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE
JUL 18
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
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THINGS TO DO → Music

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Sunday Night Jazz, 8 pm, free

• BAINBRIDGE WATERFRONT COMMUNITY CENTER Creta Matassa, Jazz Quintet, 4 pm, \$5-\$20

EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30

JAZZ ALLEY Regina Belle

• THE ROYAL ROOM Dayna Stephens with Eric Harland & Harish Ragavan, 7:30 pm, \$10-\$25

• TRIPLE DOOR Kassa Overall, 7:30 pm, \$15-\$18

Mon 3/2

LIVE MUSIC

★ • COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Little Jesus, Los Walters, 8 pm, \$25

• THE CROCODILE BACK BAR Cones, 6 pm, \$12/\$14

★ • NEPTUNE THEATRE Davido, 8 pm, \$39

RENDEZVOUS Modern Fingerstyle Guitar Night ft. Calum Graham & Sean Hall, 7 pm, \$20

SUNSET TAVERN Michael Cepress, Sherilyn Seagrest, Guests, 7:30 pm, \$10-\$25

• TRIPLE DOOR Tommy Castro & The Painkillers, 7:30 pm, \$25-\$30

• VERA PROJECT Sanctio, SeeYouSpaceCowboy, Vamachara, Typecaste, Dying Wish, 7 pm, \$15/\$18

CLASSICAL/OPERA

• BRECHEMIN AUDITORIUM Baroque Ensemble, 7:30 pm, free

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Monday Night Jazz, 7 pm, free

EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30

Tues 3/3

LIVE MUSIC

BARBOZA Hikes, 8 pm, \$11/\$13

CHOP SUEY Beast Folk, Intrinsic Factor, Revel, 8 pm, \$8

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Zack Villere, 8 pm, \$16/\$18

★ • CROCODILE Anamanaguchi, 8 pm, \$20

HIGH DIVE Neoma, Avestra, Spence Hood, 7:30 pm, \$8/\$12

HIGHLINE Death Before Dishonor, Pound, 2Klix, 8 pm, \$13/\$16

THE KRAKEN BAR & LOUNGE The Cryptics, Burn Burn Burn, The Vaticnts, 8 pm

★ • LASER DOME AT PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER Uniform, The Body, Dreamdecay, 7:30 pm, \$18/\$20

★ • NEUMOS Pepper, 8 pm, \$28/\$30

★ • SHOWBOX SODO Black Label Society, Obituary, Lord Dying, 7:30 pm, \$35/\$40

• THE SHOWBOX Saint Motel, 8 pm, \$24/\$26

★ • SUNSET TAVERN The Crocodile Presents: Bambara, Guests, 9 pm, \$13

TIM'S TAVERN Echo Relocation, We Are The Kind, Frances McCabe, Guy Johnson, 8 pm, \$7

CLASSICAL/OPERA

• KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER Concert and Campus Bands: Hearts Music, 7:30 pm, \$10

JAZZ

★ • BENAROYA HALL Aubrey Logan with the Seattle Symphony, 7:30 pm, \$32-\$72

EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30

★ • JAZZ ALLEY Omar Sosa and Yilian Canizares: Aguas, 7:30 pm, \$31

Wed 3/4

LIVE MUSIC

BELLTOWN YACHT CLUB Paper Idol, Golden Idols, Pejote Ugly, Real Don Music, 8 pm, \$10

CONOR BYRNE Powerbleeder, Flung, Sam Parkin, 8 pm, \$8

THE COTTAGE Live Music | Kellie Rose, 6:30 pm, free

• CROCODILE Changmo, Paul Blanco, 7 pm, \$39-\$199

THE FUNHOUSE Frail Body, Modern Color, 7:30 pm, \$10/\$12

★ • KEXP Best Coast Live at KEXP 12 pm, free

• NEUMOS Colony House, Tyson Motsenbocker, 8 pm, \$20/\$22

★ • SPANISH BALLROOM Joseph, 7 pm, \$30/\$35

SUBSTATION Blackwater, Holylight, Witch Ripper, The Rare Forms, 7 pm, \$12

SUNSET TAVERN Julian Blair, FRED, Touch Club, 8 pm, \$10

• TACOMA RIALTO THEATER The Black Jacket Symphony

Presents: Pink Floyd's "The Dark Side of the Moon", 8 pm, \$25/\$35

• TRIPLE DOOR Lúnasa, 7:30 pm, \$30-\$40

• VERA PROJECT Have Mercy, Fredo Disco, Selfish Things, Young Culture, 7-10 pm, \$15/\$17

★ • WAMU THEATER Prince Royce, 8 pm, \$61-\$141

CLASSICAL/OPERA

• EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS ECA Presents International Guitar Night's 20th Anniversary Tour, 7:30 pm, \$19-\$49

KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER Hélène Grimaud, 7:30 pm

• PARAGON Paragon Live Presents Mariah Belgrad, 9 pm, free

• PRIVATE HOME NECK Presents: Yourngobody, Yufi, Skybox, Extinction Event, 7:30 pm, \$5

★ • RENDEZVOUS Tracy Bonham, 7 pm, \$12/\$15

SHOWBOX SODO Matoma & Two Friends, 9 pm, \$27-\$40

• THE SHOWBOX Rebel Souljah, 8:30 pm, \$22/\$25

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB 13 Rabbit, Frames In Motion, 7 pm, \$8

SOUTHGATE ROLLER RINK Butt Prom Mach II, 9 pm

TRACTOR TAVERN The Yes Masters, BD & The Sheeks, The Berries, Biblioteka, 8:30 pm

• TRIPLE DOOR Colin James, 8 pm, \$25-\$33

★ • TULALIP RESORT CASINO Rick Springfield, 8 pm, \$65-\$75

★ • VERA PROJECT Vote with Vera ft. Duke York, Lisa Prank, Jo Passed, and More!, 7 pm, \$5/\$10

CLASSICAL/OPERA

BELLTOWN YACHT CLUB Profit

Prison, Deep Cross, Mutant, Post/

Boredom, 8:30 pm, \$10

★ • CHOP SUEY Hot Snakes, Kills Birds, 8 pm, \$30/\$35

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Frances Quinlan, Mary Lattimore, 8 pm, \$17/\$20

• LASER DOME AT PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER Uniform, The Body, Dreamdecay, 7:30 pm, \$18/\$20

• THE CROCODILE BACK BAR Super Whever, Chapel, Happy, 6:30 pm, \$15/\$17

• EASY STREET RECORDS The Black Tones In-Store, 7pm, free

• KEXP Frances Quinlan Live on KEXP 12 pm, free

KREMWERK Haüsé: Flava D, 10 pm, \$10

• NEPTUNE THEATRE Eric Nam, Frenship, 8 pm, \$39-\$149

★ • NEUMOS Telefon Tel Aviv, 8 pm, \$22/\$27

• PARAGON Paragon Live Presents Zach Michaud, 9 pm, free

SKYLARK CAFE & CLUB Spookey Ruben, Maggie Neatherlin, 7 pm

• THE SHOWBOX Saint Motel, 8 pm, \$24/\$26

★ • SUNSET TAVERN The Crocodile Presents: Bambara, Guests, 9 pm, \$13

TIM'S TAVERN Echo Relocation, We Are The Kind, Frances McCabe, Guy Johnson, 8 pm, \$7

CLASSICAL/OPERA

• BENAROYA HALL Bach &

Telemann, 8 pm, \$25-\$82

• KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER Modern Music Ensemble, 7:30 pm, \$10

• KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH Auburn Symphony Orchestra:

Uncommon Voices: Music for Woodwind Quintet, 7-9 pm,

\$10-\$20

DJ/DANCE

Q NIGHTCLUB No Mana,

10 pm, \$15

RE-BAR Re-bar Presents Hatiras

(Dirybird), Jesse Leer, LGSP,

10 pm, \$12

SUBSTATION Big '90s Party,

9:30 pm, \$25

TIMBRE ROOM Future Funktion

VI, 10 pm, \$10/\$15

JAZZ

EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE

Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30

• THE FACTORY LUXE Secret

Jazz Club Show, 6:45-9 pm, \$25

★ • JAZZ ALLEY Arturo Sandoval, \$37

THE ROYAL ROOM Sam Boshnick Quintet with Adriana Giordano & Marina Albero, 7 pm, \$12

Sat 3/7

LIVE MUSIC

• BALLARD HOMESTEAD Michaela Anne, Guests, 8 pm, \$0-\$15

★ • BARBOZA Summer Cannibals, 7 pm, \$12

THE BEERY HOUSE Tomo Nakayama, Elisha, I Love You Avalanche, 6:30 pm

★ • CLOCK-OUT LOUNGE The Moondoggies, Silver Triplets of Rio Honda, Danny Newcomb, 9 pm, \$15/\$18

• THE COLLECTIVE Climate Justice Concert with Amora & Julia Newman, 6 pm, \$0-\$20

CONOR BYRNE Christopher Paul Stelling, Guests, 9 pm, \$12

• CROCODILE Drama, Ric Wilson, 8 pm, \$18

DAWSON'S BAR & GRILL Debut of Kae and The Blazeman & Friends, 9 pm, free

THE FUNHOUSE Year of the Cobra, Deathcave, Old Iron, Old Dirty Buzzard, 8 pm, \$10/\$12

• GALLERY 1412 Future Spa, Axel Ellis, 8 pm, \$5

HARD ROCK CAFE Seattle Women of Country, 9 pm, \$10/\$15

HIGH DIVE Brass Monkeys, Asterhouse, 8 pm, \$8/\$12

• LUCKY LIQUOR Stargazy Pie, Blue Avenue, Dysfunkshun, 8 pm, \$8

• MOUNT BAKER COMMUNITY CLUB The Not Its, 10:30 am, \$6-\$12

• NEUMOS High Pulp, Shaina Shepherd, JusMoni, Falon Sierra, DJ Stas THE BOSS, 8 pm, \$10/\$15

• NORTHSORE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER Rise Up! The Hamilton Tribute Band, 7:30-9:30 pm, \$15-\$42

A CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON MERCER ISLAND
3rd Annual Canciones para Puerto Rico, 5:30 pm, \$20-\$50
A KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER Campus Philharmonia, 7:30 pm, free
A ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL Show Us Your Mercy, 8-10 pm, \$20-\$40
TOWN HALL PSSO Winter Concert 2019, 7:30 pm, \$8/\$10
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Shall Not Be Denied, 7:30 pm, \$0-\$41

DJ/DANCE

MONKEY LOFT Soft Option-Steam2: Wonder Twinz, Xrstchn, Play Attn, Tim McCarthy, 10 pm
A NECTAR Holi Hai - All Ages Color Festival with DJ Prashant, 1-5 pm, \$15-\$35
ORA NIGHTCLUB Marsh, 10 pm
PRUF CAFE & BAR PRÜFunk with Peter Evans, Avilo, Porth, 6-10 pm, \$5
Q NIGHTCLUB Hauze Sauce: Murda Beatz, 10 pm, \$15

JAZZ

COLUMBIA CITY THEATER Ted Poor, 8 pm, \$10-\$21
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30
*** A JAZZ ALLEY** Arturo Sandoval, \$37
SUNSET CLUB Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra: 25th Anniversary 'Round Midnight Gala, 6 pm, \$220-\$525

Sun 3/8**LIVE MUSIC**

A BALLARD HOMESTEAD Storhill, 7:30 pm, \$0-\$35
A CROCODILE Amanda Shires, L.A. Edwards, 7 pm, \$25-\$125
FAUNTROY SCHOOLHOUSE Caspar Babyants, 10:30 am, \$6-\$12
HIGH DIVE Palace Hotel, Nolan Garrett, Claire Michelle, 7:30 pm, \$8/\$12
*** HIGHLINE** Curl Up and Die, Heiress, Blightmaker, 8 pm, \$15/\$18
A MC MENAMINS ELKS TEMPLE Pup, Screaming Females, The Drew Thomson Foundation, 8 pm, \$20
NEUMOS ARMINHMR, Lione, 8 pm, \$16/\$20
A PHINNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION Seattle Lilla Spelmanslag 7 pm, \$12-\$15
PRIVATE HOME Gabe Dixon (solo) - House Concert (Woodinville), 7 pm, \$45
RENDEZVOUS Campbient Sound Art Salon Performance and Record Release, 1-4 pm, free
THE ROYAL ROOM arx duo with Cristina Valdes, 7:30 pm, \$15
*** SUNSET TAVERN** Reuben & the Dark, Guests, 8:30 pm, \$12/\$14
A TRIPLE DOOR Vishnè, Asia, 7:30 pm, \$18-\$24
A VERA PROJECT Advance Base, Claire Cronin, Ruth Garbus, Guests, 7-10 pm, \$10/\$12

CLASSICAL/OPERA

BELLEVUE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Bellevue Chamber Chorus: Finding Home - The Sense of Belonging, 3 pm, \$10-\$22
*** BENAROYA HALL** Celebrate Asia, 4 pm, \$33-\$100
EPIPHANY PARISH Pacific MusicWorks: Genius Unbound, 2 pm, \$35/\$45
MEYDENBAUER CENTER Winter Showcase, 4:30 pm, \$10-\$22
MEYDENBAUER CENTER Winter Masterworks, 7:30 pm, \$10-\$22
RESONANCE AT SOMA TOWERS Pianist Uriel Tsachor: To Be with the B's 2 pm, \$15/\$30
A SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, WEST SEATTLE BRANCH Ladies Musical Club Concert, 3-4 pm, free

A ST. MATTHEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH Auburn Symphony Orchestra: Uncommon Voices: Music for Woodwind Quintet, 4-6 pm, \$10-\$20

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Sunday Night Jazz, 8-10 pm, free
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30
*** A JAZZ ALLEY** Arturo Sandoval, \$37

Mon 3/9**LIVE MUSIC**

THE FUNHOUSE Freedom Hawk, Projections on a Wall, Klaw, 8 pm, \$10/\$12
SUNSET TAVERN Mike Simmons, Boogie Boulevard, Cullen Cochran, 7:30 pm, \$10

CLASSICAL/OPERA

A BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER Winter Highlight, 7 pm, \$10-\$20
A EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS CSO: From the New World, 7:30 pm, \$10-\$27
A KATHARYN ALVORD GERLICH THEATER Faculty Recital: Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir, 7:30 pm, \$20

JAZZ

THE ALLEY Monday Night Jazz, 7-9 pm, free
EGAN'S BALLARD JAM HOUSE Cabaret Month 2020, \$15-\$30

TRIPLE DOOR Hiromi - The Trio Project, 7:30 pm, \$35-\$45

A UW MEANY STUDIO THEATER Studio Jazz Ensemble & UW Modern Band, 7:30 pm, \$10



Photo by Monica Jane Frisell

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MARCH 17
DERVISH

FRI MARCH 20
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DAN DEACON
ED SCHRADER'S MUSIC BEAT

MARCH 25
MC HOTDOG
KENZY (FROM MJ116)

MARCH 31
TENNIS
MOLLY BURCH

APRIL 1
OTEL BURBRIDGE & FRIENDS

APRIL 2
NAME DROP BOOK TOUR
ROSS MATHEWS

APRIL 5
HBO LATINO WELCOMES
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APRIL 7
THE GREAT BAMBINO TOUR
ACTION BRONSON
MEYHEM LAUREN

APRIL 17 - 18 - 19
THE OFFICE
THE MUSICAL PARODY

APRIL 20
RAINBOW VALLEY TOUR
MATT CORBY

APRIL 22
ZUCCHERO

SAT MAY 2
THE SECRET SISTERS
ANNA TIVEL

SAT MAY 16
MIGRATION STORIES TOUR
M. WARD

MAY 17
THE LOST BROTHERS

MAY 21
BROTHER SISTER TOUR
WATKINS FAMILY HOUR

MAY 27
SAMANTHA FISH

MAY 28
MEW

JUNE 2
PEN PALS

ON SALE FRI AT 10AM
FRI JUNE 12
THE I HOPE YOU GET RICH TOUR
RONNY CHIENG

JUNE 17
LA SANTA CECILIA

ON SALE FRI AT 10AM
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HOMBRES G

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BLOOPER NIGHT

THINGS TO DO → Film

Not Just for Kids

The Children's Film Festival Seattle has much to offer audiences of all ages.

BY LEILANI POLK

If you don't have kids of a certain age, or any kids at all, the Children's Film Festival Seattle (CFFS) probably seems like an event not intended for you—if it's even on your radar. In this, you can't be blamed. It is an easy mistake to make.

Much of what you'll find on tap at the annual fest, now in its 15th year, can be experienced and enjoyed by adults—and they don't need to feel odd

or out of place if they are unaccompanied by minors. In fact, festival director Elizabeth Shepherd says the majority of CFFS pass holders are adults who attend alone or with friends, and they're there to see everything. "I think the festival is known as a treasure trove of animation," she told me via e-mail. "But I have asked adult pass holders why they come back year after year, and I've heard that they trust the content overall to be uplifting and thoughtful and gentle, and they appreciate that."

CFFS's slate of international films features visual storytelling centered on narratives about childhood—the way that children view the world, deal with adult issues, and work as agents of change in their communities. Curated by Northwest Film Forum, the 2020 fest encompasses 175 animated, feature-length, and short films from 47 countries.

For obvious reasons (read: short attention spans), the biggest chunk of offerings are shorts packaged in thematic and age-appropriate blocks. And there is just so much to see



The bento box characters of 'Koniguri-Kun Butterfly' are ridiculously adorable.

during the fest's run (February 27 to March 8).

Festival opener **The Cat's Meow** (Feb 27 and March 7) features a range of different types of animation in films all related to felines, like Chinese filmmaker/animatior Jie Weng's stop-motion **The Quintet of the Sunset**, a poetic exploration of aging as told via five very different cats and the human they have in common.

There's **Caleidescope** (March 1), a series of colorful animated films in a range of

textures and colors, about embracing being different, like the ridiculously adorable stop-motion **Koniguri-Kun Butterfly**, its characters made up of foods commonly found in a Japanese bento box (also showing in Sun Circle: Films from Japan on Feb 29 and the Om Nom Nom food-themed shorts program on March 8), and the French-Swiss **Last Day of Autumn**, a charming line-drawn race against the winter. And there's **Rainbow Roar** (Feb 29) a shorts program

celebrating LGBTQ identity and diversity that includes the poignant 15-minute Canadian doc **I Am Skylar**, which follows a trans girl navigating the complexities of puberty, and the family and community supporting her along the way.

Amid the feature-length fare is **Microplastic Madness** (Feb 29), an enlightening, vibrant, take-action documentary about a group of Red Hook, Brooklyn, fifth-graders who spent two years investigating plastic pollution, and became citizen scientists and advocates of plastic-free action. Closing night includes a live dance performance and presentation of **Moving Stories** (March 8), a doc about several diverse NYC dancers who work with at-risk youth from around the world, and the challenges faced (and transformations experienced) by both the teachers and their students.

For those seeking recs for events that are more geared to "older" (ages 13-plus) audiences, there's **Borders, Boundaries, and Home** (March 4 and 7), a program of narrative films and docs focused on young people dealing with displacement, immigration, occupation, and separation from loved ones. One of its best offerings is the delightful and humorous **Maradona's Legs**, set during the 1990 World Cup and following two Palestinian boys seeking the last sticker to complete their World Cup album and win a free Atari.

There is so much else I don't have room to talk about here. Go explore. I guarantee you'll see something you like. And don't mind the kids. Or bring 'em along. ■

Top Picks

'Once Were Brothers'

BY DAVE SEGAL

History is written by the victors—and as a corollary, winners usually become the focus of music documentaries. When it comes to the tragic tale of the Band, guitarist and main songwriter Robbie Robertson definitely has emerged triumphant. Three of the five members of this influential rock group are dead, and the other survivor, keyboardist Garth Hudson, shuns the spotlight. Hudson doesn't even speak in *Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and the Band*—although he was interviewed.

The great irony of the Band is that they became pioneers and paragons of what came to be known

as Americana, although only one member (awesome drummer/vocalist Levon Helm) was American. The rest of the Band—Robertson, Hudson, bassist Rick Danko, and pianist/vocalist Richard Manuel—were Canadians who cut their teeth in rockabilly wild man Ronnie Hawkins's group as the Hawks, and then further honed their chops while on tour with Bob Dylan in the mid-1960s, as that folk icon shifted into his electric-rock phase. Those apprenticeships, though, helped to forge their creativity, and the rest is musical history.



ELLIOTT LANDY

Once on their own, the Band congregated in Saugerties, New York, and created music that broke with their past endeavors in the basement of a house known as Big Pink. Robertson strove for originality, and at their best, the Band created a mournful

sound that lifted you heavenward. They harnessed an earthier-than-thou, gospelized rock that seems nonchalant—and ageless. What really distinguished the Band was their four vocalists, who emitted some of the most soulful

sonorities ever to come from Caucasian males. Respect to director Daniel Roher for including footage of two of the best and most soulful Band songs: "Up on Cripple Creek" and "Chest Fever."

With *Once Were Brothers*, Roher presents a conventional contextualizing rock doc with marquee-name talking heads—Van Morrison, George Harrison, Bruce Springsteen, et al.—and efficiently reveals Robertson's early family life (his mother was indigenous, his father Jewish) and musical evolution. Robertson is an articulate, passionate memoirist; the film is based on his 2016 autobiography, *Testimony*. With equanimity, he registers the Band's soaring highs and devastating lows, while his French ex-wife Dominique adds crucial observations about the inter-band dynamics and substance abuse that dogged the members. Tracing a story of relentless, upward mobility through the music industry, the doc emphasizes

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THINGS TO DO → Film

Robertson's inner strength and boundless ambition, which helped him to avoid the booze- and drug-related pitfalls that afflicted his mates.

For fans of the Band, this film will inspire tears of sorrow and joy, if not rage. Now more than ever, their music stirs emotions with a profundity that feels religious, but without the stench of sanctimony. (*Opens Fri Feb 28, Regal Meridian 16 and AMC Seattle 10.*)

FEB 28–MARCH 5



COURTESY OF IFC FILMS. AN IFC FILMS RELEASE.

doctor's eldest daughter, Cisely (Meagan Good). She, like many of the women in her community, deeply admires the doctor, but this feeling of admiration is also mixed with sexual attraction. The film—which is expertly directed and written by Lemmons (the director of *Harriet*), and edited by Terilyn A. Shropshire (one of the few black female editors in the industry)—is about the messiness of a sexual awakening. (*Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute*, 6 pm, \$10.) CHARLES MUDEDE

MORE TheStranger.com/Film

Enter SPLIFF Now!

Calling all cannabis lovers... who also want to win A LOT of money: You should enter your short cannabis-themed movie to be in the SPLIFF Film Festival! For those new to the game, SPLIFF is where filmmakers, artists, animators, and stoners share original short films exploring stoner themes. From serious takes on pot culture to stoner comedy to mind-blowing weirdness—they all have a home at SPLIFF. Creative types of all stripes can entertain, challenge, and amaze SPLIFF audiences with films that examine and/or celebrate cannabis and its liberating effects on our imaginations, appetites, libidos, and creative energies. And even better, the makers of SPLIFF films have a chance to win a whopping \$11,000 in cash prizes. WHAAAAAT?? That's right—and you still have time to make your short film and enter it into the SPLIFF 2020 festival; the deadline for submissions is Friday, March 6, go to splifffilmfest.com/submit to find more info. So what in the world are you waiting for? Since all levels of filmmakers have an equal chance at winning, why not give it a shot, right? SPLIFF is a great way to let the world see your talent, so don't hide your light underneath a (pot) bushel!

WM. STEVEN HUMPHREY

More Picks

- The Adventures of Prince Achmed**
SIFF Film Center, Sat Feb 29, 11 am, \$10
- Be Kind, Rewind:**
Baz Luhrmann's 'Romeo + Juliet'
Tilmbre Room, Thurs Feb 27, 9 pm, \$7/\$10
- Céline and Julie Go Boating**
The Beacon, Thurs Feb 27, 6 pm, \$13
- 'The Church' with Mortiferum**
The Beacon, Sat Feb 29, 8 pm, \$20
- Emma**
SIFF Cinema Egyptian, opening Fri Feb 28, \$11/\$14
- French Pleasures: 'Four Adventures of Reinette and Isabelle'**
Seattle Art Museum, Thurs Feb 27, 7:30 pm, \$9
- Tokyo Godfathers**
AMC Pacific Place & Regal Meridian 16, March 9 & 11, \$16
- The Traitor**
SIFF Cinema Uptown, opening Fri March 6, \$11/\$14
- Vitalina Virella**
SIFF Film Center, Feb 28–March 1, \$11/\$14
- Wendy**
SIFF Cinema Uptown, opening Fri March 6, \$11/\$14

WED MARCH 11

Fade to Black Presents: 'Eve's Bayou'

The three great black films of the 1990s are, in this order: *To Sleep with Anger* from Charles Burnett, *One False Move* from Carl Franklin, and *Eve's Bayou* from Kasi Lemmons. The first and third are family dramas, the second is neo-noir. All have almost nothing to do with an issue that, for good reason, is important to most black directors: race relations. In the case of *Eve's Bayou*, which is set in the 1960s, the family is prosperous and even claims aristocratic blood from a French ancestor. The father, played superbly by Samuel L. Jackson, is the doctor for the "colored community" in a sleepy corner of Louisiana. The doctor lives in a mansion with his mother, wife, and three children (two girls and a boy). The doctor makes no effort whatsoever to be faithful to his wife, Roz (Lynn Whitfield). When he is not at home, he is most likely sleeping with one of his clients rather than treating them.

The film revolves around this serial philandering. It breaks Roz's heart, and sexually confuses the

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THINGS TO DO → Food & Drink

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To find some of the best Mexican food, you should visit Burien.

BY JULIANNE BELL

To get to Birrieria Tijuana, you drive to Burien, past stretches of suburbia and teriyaki joints, until you reach an unassuming parking lot that serves a Goodwill store and the Guadalupe Market, with its flashing marquee advertising "carniceria" and "panaderia" and "menu." Inside the Mexican marketplace, you'll find towering stacks of jumbo white hominy cans, a rainbow of Caprice shampoos, star-shaped pinatas with tassels of tissue paper streaming from their points, and, at last, a striped archway with a sign reading "taqueria" that lets you know you've arrived.

Beneath a painted mural of a Mexican village scene, the flow of people queuing up in front of the DolEx money transfer kiosk never seems to slow or stop. The cafeteria-like blue tables and bench seats are populated by construction workers on their lunch breaks, families celebrating birthday parties, and toddlers gnawing on tamarindo sticks. A no-nonsense woman in an apron printed with the phrase "*Deja tu lo guapa, soy una mamá bien chingona*" ("Besides my good looks, I'm also a badass mom") takes orders at the counter.

The heart of Birrieria Tijuana's menu is, of course, the birria: beef slow-simmered with spices and chiles until it is so gloriously sloppy and greasy and napkin-eviscerating as to be soporific. This meat is then arranged in various near-interchangeable permutations of griddled corn tortillas and gooey white cheese, running the gamut from tacos to mulitas (meat and cheese sandwiched by tortillas).

One of the very best things you can order here is the vampiro, an open-faced taco with a layer of melted cheese and a stratum of shredded beef atop a fried tortilla. (The bloodthirsty name is owing to the tortillas'

Top Picks

SAT FEB 29

Washington Beer Open House

More than 110 Washington breweries will open their doors for a simultaneous statewide open house, which gives beer lovers a unique opportunity to create their own adventure. Plot an itinerary for a personalized brewery crawl, travel to a few destination breweries you've always wanted to try, or simply drop by the nearest participating craft brewer in your neighborhood. Each featured brewer will have their own lineup of surprises in store, which may include samples, tours, souvenirs, rare barrel tastings, savory food pairings, and more. (Various locations, 12–5 pm.)

JULIANNE BELL



NELSON LAU

Tacos featuring Birrieria Tijuana's eponymous birria and gooey white cheese.

tendency to furl inward like bat wings as they toast.) If you're lucky, you'll get one where the cheese has crisped up into burnished, lacy, frico-like edges the color of a penny. Similarly, the oozy, crunchy queso tacos are a satisfying showcase for the same flavors. The nectar-like aguas frescas, made with actual fresh fruit in flavors like tamarind and melon, are worthy of note all on their own.

Whatever your order may be, it requires

a cup of the palliative consommé, a beef soup that arrives mouth-burningly hot in a Styrofoam container, pools of fat shimmering on the surface. People who know what they're doing dip their tacos in this. Your meal also wants the freshness and brightness of chopped cilantro, onions, radishes, lime, and pickled vegetables—heaped generously in massive plastic tubs at the condiment bar—to counteract all the

richness. Jars of salsa macha (a fiery red chili oil) and squeeze bottles of fresh red and green salsa sit at each table, for all your doctoring needs.

At the end of the whole affair, your table littered with foil and paper and napkins reduced to transparent tatters, you'll feel tired but happy, consecrated in a blaze of orange oil. It's an experience that's worth traveling out of your way to enjoy. ■

MARCH 1–8

Seattle Cocktail Week

This spirited weeklong event puts a spotlight on the movers and (cocktail) shakers of the Seattle bar scene with special libations available at more than 60 participating venues, plus classes and seminars for industry pros, pop-up cocktail bars, bar takeovers, competitions, tastings, parties, and more. Saturday's Cocktail District event at Bell Harbor Conference Center, a "carnival of cocktails," will feature presentations and demonstrations, a retail store, and a food truck pier with Uzbek street food from Tabassum, Native American fry bread tacos from Off the Rez, Asian fusion eats from Crave by Suite J, and much more. (Various locations.) JULIANNE BELL



MON MARCH 2

'Pasta Grannies' Cookbook Dinner

In 2014, Vicki Bennison began a project to document Italy's dying art of making pasta at home by hand. So she began to track down the Italian grandmothers who had learned the craft in their youth and filmed their processes in their own homes. It didn't take long for the delightful results to become an online sensation, with more than 456,000 followers on YouTube and upwards of 236,000 followers on Instagram, transforming nonagenarian *nonna* into unlikely influencers. Bennison's work also spawned a cookbook, *Pasta Grannies: The Secrets of Italy's Best Home Cooks*, released in the US last October. In collaboration with the local cookbook store Book Larder, chef Brandon Pettit's Ballard pizzeria Delancey will host a dinner inspired by the book, with sfoglia in brodo, tagliolina with shrimp, pappardelle

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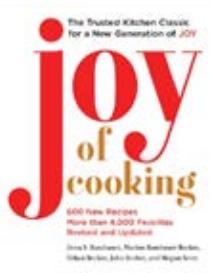
THINGS TO DO → Food & Drink

with wild boar ragu, chicories with Meyer lemon, and "something beautiful and Italian for dessert." (Delaney, 6:30 pm, \$85.) JULIANNE BELL

SUN MARCH 8

John Becker and Megan Scott: 'Joy of Cooking'

Julia Child once called the *Joy of Cooking* "a fundamental resource for any American cook." Originally self-published by St. Louis homemaker Irma Rombauer in 1931, and in print continuously since its original commercial publishing in 1936, *Joy of Cooking* is one of the most popular cookbooks to come out of the United States, and has been republished more times than any other, with upwards of 18 million copies sold. Rombauer's great-grandson John Becker and his wife, Megan Scott, are the first of the family to be solely responsible for testing, revising, and updating the book since 1975, and their revised edition dropped in November 2019.



They added 600 new recipes to the 4,000 it already included, bumping it up to an astounding 1,200 pages, and updated every section to reflect modern ingredients and techniques currently available to home cooks. Becker and Scott join Anna Briones (the local author/artist responsible for creating the paper cuts at the beginning of each chapter) in conversation at this special event held in support of *Joy's* latest revision. (*Book Larder*, 11 am, free.) LEILANI POLK

Oyster Fest 2020

The frigid water of the winter months yields especially delicious oysters—and Fremont's charming cafe and natural-wine shop Vif has taken it upon themselves to showcase these crisp, briny treasures by pairing them with similarly crisp, briny white wines. Slurp slippery bivalves from guest shuckers Hama Hama Oysters, purchase other food for sale, and pour lots of natural wine down your gullet. The event will be held both indoors and outdoors, so be sure to dress appropriately. (Vif, 1–4 pm) JULIANNE BELL

[MORE](#) [TheStranger.com/Food](#)

New Bars & Restaurants

BELLEVUE

Chi Mac
Korean fried chicken
3640 Factoria Blvd SE, Suite E
Sugar N Flakes Bakery
Bakery and dessert company
227 Bellevue Way NE

CAPITOL HILL

A&A Cafe and Organic Tamaleria Cider House
Handmade tamales and hard cider
212 Broadway E
Meet Korean BBQ
Upscale Korean barbecue
500 E Pike St

More Picks

30th Annual PNA Wine Taste

Phinney Neighborhood Association, Sat Feb 29, 7:30–10 pm, \$30

9th Annual Bellevue Bourbon Bash

Daniel's Broiler, Sat March 7, 5–8 pm, \$165–\$231

Author Talk: From Scratch: A Memoir of Love, Sicily, and Finding Home by Tembi Locke

Book Larder, Mon March 9, 6:30 pm, free

Guerilla Pizza Kitchen x Ursa Minor

Ursa Minor, Sat March 7, 6 pm, \$40

Irish Soda Bread Contest 2020

T.S. McHugh's, Sat March 7, 1:30–2:30 pm, free

Li'l Woody's Burger Month

Li'l Woody's, through March 2

Noodle Nite!

Good Day Donuts, Thurs Feb 27, 5–9 pm

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Early Warnings

BALLARD BREWERIES PRESENT ST. PAT'S PARADE O' PINTS Populuxe Brewing, Sat March 14, 2–6 pm

SEATTLE RESTAURANT WEEK SPRING 2020 Various locations, March 29–April 9, \$20/\$35

THE STRANGER'S 2020 SEATTLE WING WEEK Various locations, May 11–16

SEATTLE STREET FOOD FESTIVAL 139 Ninth Ave N, June 13–14, 12 pm

WASHINGTON BREWERS FESTIVAL Marymoor Park, June 19–21, \$25

SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL BEERFEST Fisher Pavilion, July 10–12, \$30/45

BALLARD SEAFOODFEST Ballard, July 10–12, free

KIRKLAND UNCORKED Marina Park, July 10–12, \$30

BITE OF SEATTLE Seattle Center, July 17–19

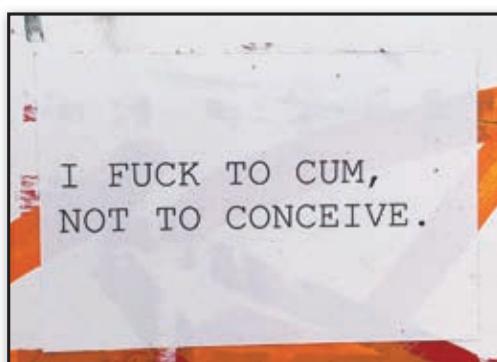
15TH ANNUAL SUMMER BEER TASTE Phinney Neighborhood Association, Sat July 18, 4–7 pm, \$25–\$30

LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN

You're Warren; they're Bloomberg.

sticker patrol

#seattlestickerpatrol

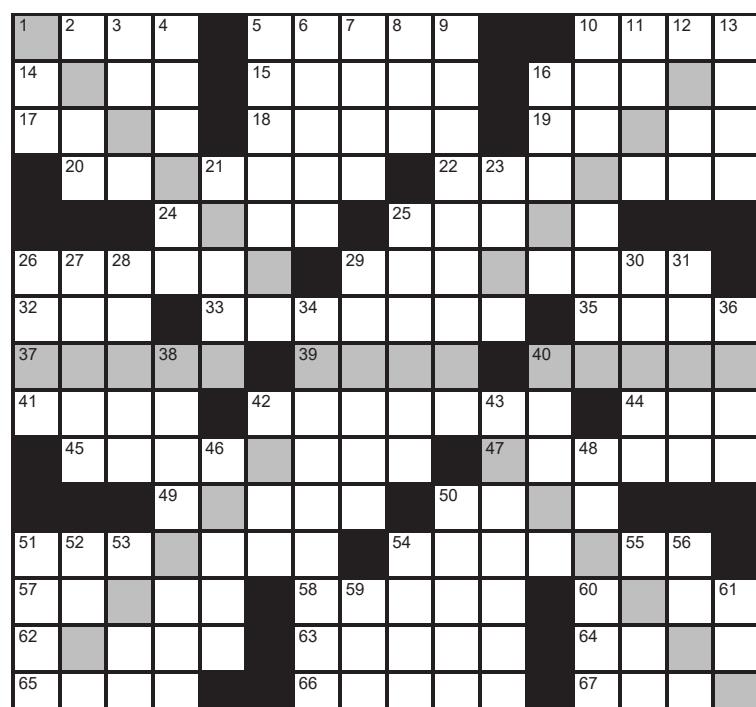


If any of these stickers are yours, please e-mail Stranger art critic Jasmyne Keimig at jkeimig@thestranger.com.



JOHNNY SAMPSON

Follow Me BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY



ACROSS

- Is in need of extra rest and hot tea, maybe
- "Weird Al" specialty
- IBC rival
- 107, in Roman numerals
- Texas city where FedEx Office is headquartered
- Boston: T.: D.C.: __
- TikTok user, likely
- Gourmand
- Multigenerational baseball players
- Ray-catching session
- "Just one more thing" detective
- Tip of Spain?
- Univ. sections
- Moving about
- Location of less risk
- Strong pad
- Harry Potter's friend Hermione __
- Part of a charge
- Google cloud service
- Where all roads lead to, metaphorically
- N.W.A. DJ whose name sounds like a color
- Wire-haired terrier of screwball whodunits
- Trucker's gadget
- Roughly half the world
- More agreeable
- Sponsor for the Garden where the Celtics and Bruins play
- They'll help you remove a spare tire
- Puncher Max
- Supporting with "of"
- Business-in-the-front/party-in-the-back haircuts
- Principle of Zen
- Irreplaceable string
- Stretches during history class
- Things in the cart
- Must, colloquially
- Alternatives to bow ties
- Lavish care (on)
- Buddy of reruns
- They're no longer seeing each other

DOWN

- Do something!
- Currier's lithographic partner
- "In ___ of flowers..."
- Was human
- Trident user
- Pure reason philosopher
- Swear words
- Undivided
- Shove down someone's throat
- With a false nature
- Molecular part
- Smoke and then some
- Not good, not bad
- Thick dessert drinks
- Muffin top, e.g.
- Abbr. on a cordless
- One-named 1950s bombshell
- Meat packaging letters
- Language of the Storting
- Last Supper question
- Sounds from the sack
- Stuffed grape leaves
- First name in talk
- Simultaneous purchase and sale of assets
- Deliberately lose games to get the #1 pick
- Action star nicknamed "The Muscles from Brussels"
- Sing in lederhosen
- Poet __ Wade
- Blue cheese alternative
- They're difficult to work with
- Cakewalk
- Montana city named after a hill
- "Don't believe a word of it"
- Their motto is "Animus in consulendo liber": Abbr.
- Stew
- Yoga studio handouts
- Cereal not for rabbits
- Quench
- Pitchfork carriers
- Bunk sharer, maybe

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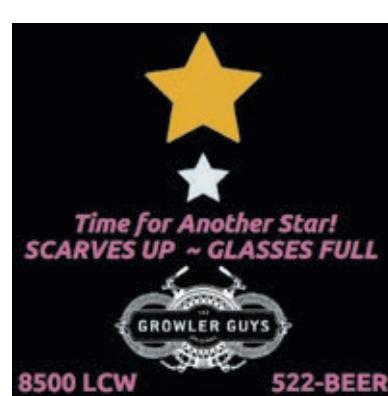
M-F 3pm-11pm, Sat 12pm-11pm, Sun 12pm-10pm
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GO SOUNDERS!

★ 2020 MATCH SCHEDULE ★

MARCH	SATURDAY, MAY 23 at Sporting Kansas City, 5:30 pm	SATURDAY, JULY 25 vs Los Angeles Football Club, 12 pm
SUNDAY, MARCH 1 vs Chicago Fire FC, 12 pm	WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 vs Montreal Impact, 7:30 pm	AUGUST
SATURDAY, MARCH 7 vs Columbus Crew FC, 7 pm	SUNDAY, MAY 31 vs Real Salt Lake, 3 pm	SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 at Los Angeles Football Club, 12:30 pm
SATURDAY, MARCH 14 at Houston Dynamo, 5:30 pm	JUNE	SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 vs Sporting Kansas City, 12:30 pm
SATURDAY, MARCH 21 vs FC Dallas, 7 pm	SATURDAY, JUNE 13 at Vancouver Whitecaps FC, 7 pm	SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 at Minnesota United FC, 4 pm
APRIL	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 at New England Revolution, 4:30 pm	SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 vs Portland Timbers, 12:30 pm
FRIDAY, APRIL 3 at Nashville SC, 6 pm	SUNDAY, JUNE 21 at LA Galaxy, 12 pm	FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 at Inter Miami CF, 5 pm
SATURDAY, APRIL 18 vs Vancouver Whitecaps FC, 7 pm	SATURDAY, JUNE 27 vs New York City FC, 2 pm	SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY, APRIL 25 at Real Salt Lake, 6 pm	JULY	SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 vs LA Galaxy, 3:30 pm
MAY	SUNDAY, JULY 5 vs Minnesota United FC, 6 pm	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 vs San Jose Earthquakes, 7:30 pm
SATURDAY, MAY 2 vs D.C. United, 2:30 pm	WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 at New York Red Bulls, 5 pm	SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 at FC Dallas, 2 pm
SATURDAY, MAY 9 vs Colorado Rapids, 7 pm	SUNDAY, JULY 12 at Atlanta United FC, 9:30 am	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 at Colorado Rapids, 6 pm
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 at San Jose Earthquakes, 7:30 pm	SATURDAY, JULY 18 at Toronto FC, 4 pm	OCTOBER
SUNDAY, MAY 17 at Portland Timbers, 2 pm	WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 vs Houston Dynamo, 7:30 pm	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 vs Nashville FC, 1:30 pm



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